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ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—In consequence of HER MAJESTY'S Marriage being fixed for Monday, the 10th instant, there will be no Meeting of the Society on that day. JOHN WASHINGTON, Secretary.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY of LONDON, 49, Pall Mall. DESIGNS FOR THE GARDENS. The Council, being anxious to carry out as early as possible the provisions of the Charter of Incorporation, hereby give notice that they are desirous of RECEIVING DESIGNS for Laying-out the Grounds of the Society in the Inner Circle of the Regent's Park, and further offer a Premium of 50 Guineas for the best Design submitted to them. The Designs to be sent in on or before Saturday, the 14th day of March. Further information may be obtained of the Secretary, at the Rooms of the Society, 49, Pall Mall, where Plans of the Ground and Particulars of the Arrangements required may be obtained. By order of the Council. JAMES DE CARLE SOWERBY, Sec.

TO ARCHITECTS.—THE COMMITTEE of the BRITISH and FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY having resolved to erect a New Normal School Establishment, invite ARCHITECTS to send in DESIGNS for the same. They offer a Premium of 500l. for the plan which, in the judgment of the Committee, may be deemed the best, and for the second a Premium of 250l. The Designs must be delivered at the Society's House on or before Saturday, the 14th day of March. Further information may be obtained of the Secretary, at the Institution, Borough-road. The Committee reserve to themselves the option of employing their own Architect. HENRY DUNN, Sec.

ELOCUTION.—The Rev. S. Wood, B.A. gives INSTRUCTION in ELOCUTION, either at his own Residence, or in Schools and Families. Terms may be known by applying to Mr. Wood, at 32, University-street, Gower-street.

ELOCUTION.—Two LECTURES, indoctrinating in the Basis and Characteristics of ELOCUTION, will be given, on the Evenings of TUESDAY, the 18th and 25th inst., at Mr. Henderson's Room, 72, Newmarket-street, OXFORD-STREET, by the Rev. Wm. F. WALDRON. Gentlemen's own cards will insure their admission free; Gentlemen's presence there. Commencement, Half-past 7 o'clock.

DAILY MUSICAL and GERMAN GOVERNOR.—A LADY, who has been several years in the profession, having lost of her time unoccupied, wishes to meet with a few more PUPILS in or near Town, to give LESSONS on the HARP, PIANO, in SINGING, THOROUGH-BASS, and the GERMAN LANGUAGE, together or separate. Satisfactory references will be given.—Address by letter, pre-paid, to C. B., at Messrs. Hatchard's, Booksellers, 187, Piccadilly.

GOVERNOR PUPIL.—There is a VACANCY, offering greater advantages than are usual, for a Young Lady who may wish to avail herself of superior instruction in an establishment for finishing the education of twelve young ladies, situated in a fashionable watering-place in Hampshire. The course of study pursued by the Pupils, includes all solid English acquirements, the Continental languages, Music, and Drawing. A Premium is expected, according to the time required, which will include all the above advantages. Services cannot be accepted.—Address, by letter, post-paid, to A. B., care of Mr. Pollard, 1, Greek-street, Soho-square.

EDUCATION.—TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS. A Gentleman of the first respectability, educated at Eton and Cambridge, and well acquainted with the French Language, wishes to receive into his family, and to EDUCATE with his own sons, ONE or TWO YOUNG GENTLEMEN, between the ages of 10 and 15. He proposes to combine the advantages of an excellent School, with Masters at home, and the care and individual attention which are seldom to be met with except under the parental roof. Terms (if no vacancy) 1000l. per annum, extra, except washing and pocket-money.—Address, A. Y., Post Office, Cheltenham.

HANWELL COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX. Principal.—The Rev. J. A. EMBERTON, M.A. Oxon., Curate of Hanwell.

PARENTS and GUARDIANS, desirous of selecting a School in a healthy situation, combining the intellectual advantages of a Collegiate School, with religious instruction, moral training, and domestic care, on liberal terms, may obtain Prospectuses, on application (if by letter, pre-paid) to the Rev. T. T. Walsley, D.D. Rectory, Hanwell; J. D. Macbride, Esq. D.C.L. Principal, Magdalen Hall, Oxford; and of the Principal at the School.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Superior Education, upon inclusive terms. There are at present two or three VACANCIES in the School, which character, very delightful, and situated a short distance west of the metropolis. The course of studies pursued embraces all the essential branches of a liberal education, and fully prepares the pupils for the Universities, the professions, or mercantile pursuits. The French language is constantly spoken, under the direction of a resident Frenchman; the domestic arrangements are upon the most liberal scale, and the moral and gentlemanly deportment of the Pupils are scrupulously regarded. The terms, commencing from the date of entrance, are unusually moderate, and include in one charge Drawing, Drilling, and Washing. For all extra charges, Particulars will be forwarded by addressing to B. A., Mr. R. Dean's, Red Lion-square.

WANTED AN APPRENTICE TO A BOOK-SELLER.—An active and well-educated YOUTH, who writes a good hand. He will have an unusual opportunity of acquiring an extensive knowledge of the profession in all its branches, both English and Foreign. Board and lodging to be provided by his friends. Premium 100 Guineas.—Address (post paid) to Henry G. Bohn, 4 and 5, York-street, Covent-garden.

Just published, Gratis. A CATALOGUE of SECOND-HAND BOOKS, free, G. W. L. L. S. Leicester-square, London. It contains a Catalogue, at the end of every month, of ANCIENT and MODERN BOOKS in every branch of English and Foreign Literature, including many rare and valuable editions. Catalogues contain an endless variety of works suitable for the curious, the scholar, and the modern library. Gentlemen favouring the advertiser with their address shall receive Catalogues on the day of publication.

PATENT DRAIN TILES and BRICKS.—Applications for LICENCES to use the MARQUIS of TWEEDEDALE'S PATENT DRAIN TILE and BRICK MACHINES, and for the ERECTION of ESTABLISHMENTS upon the Estates of Landed Proprietors, may be addressed to Mr. James Hunt, 10, Whitehall, Westminster.

Sales by Auction. VALUABLE COLLECTION of PICTURES, JUST IMPORTED FROM HOLLAND. MESSRS. FOSTER & SONS beg to announce that they are instructed to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at their Gallery, 54, Pall Mall, on WEDNESDAY, Feb. 12, a valuable importation of about 150 PICTURES, chiefly of the Dutch and Flemish schools; amongst these deserving of more particular notice are—Woody Landscape with Broken Foreground and Water-mill, by Hobbema; View on the Banks of a Canal by Moonlight, Van der Meer; Winter Piece, Jacob Ruysdael; a ditto, Isaac Ochterloo; Landscape with Cattle, Fyrmaker; Exterior (a cabinet gem), Lingelbach; and select specimens of the following and other esteemed Masters. Artists: Van Huisum, Ouweter, Vermeyen, Berghem, Landens, Orizotti, De Vries, Both, Molinier, Rembouts, Wouvermans, Canaletti, Netcher, Swaneveldt. Nearly the whole of which, being a very genuine and speculative state, are well worthy the attention of connoisseurs and dealers.

May be viewed three days preceding the sale. Catalogues had at Messrs. Fosters' Offices, 54, Pall Mall, and 14, Greek-street, Soho.

ANCIENT and MODERN PRINTS. MESSRS. FOSTER & SONS will SELL by AUCTION, at the Gallery, Pall Mall, on THURSDAY, Feb. 13, and following Day, at One precisely each day, a large COLLECTION of ANCIENT and MODERN ENGRAVINGS, including a great many that were purchased by illustrations. May be viewed two days prior, and Catalogues had at Messrs. Fosters' Offices, 14, Greek-street, and 54, Pall Mall.

LONDON and BRIGHTON RAILWAY COMPANY. Incorporated by Act of Parliament the 15th July, 1825. Call for the 7th Instalment, 3s. per Share.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors of the London and Brighton Railway Company have this day made a Call of 3s. per Share in this undertaking, and the same is directed to be paid on or before the 2nd day of March next, to either of the undermentioned Bankers, viz. Messrs. Smith, Payne, & Smith; Messrs. Ladbrookes, Kingscote, & Co. Liverpool and Manchester—The Manchester and Liverpool District Bank, on account of Smith, Payne, & Smith. Brighton, Hoveham, Lewes, and Tunbridge—The London and County Joint Stock Bank, Branch Bankers. Lewes—Messrs. Molyneux & Co. Glasgow—The Glasgow Union Bank. Dublin—The Provincial Bank of Ireland. Proprietors of Shares are therefore requested to pay the same accordingly. (Signed) JOHN HARMAN, Chairman. London and Brighton Railway Office, 10, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, 15th Feb. 1840.

NATIONAL LOAN FUND LIFE ASSURANCE and DEFERRED ANNUITY SOCIETY, 26, Cornhill, London. Empowered by Act of Parliament. Directors.—T. Lanie Murray, Esq. Chairman. Col. Sir James Cameron, Bart. George Langley, Esq. John Elliott, M.D. F.R.S. John Lawson, Esq. H. Gordon, Esq. Joseph Thompson, Esq. Major Wilcock, K.L.S.

Dr. Oliphant Gregory, F.R.A.S.; Professor Wheatstone, F.R.S. Actuary.—W. S. B. Woolhouse, Esq. F.R.A.S. By the new principles of Life Assurance and Deferred Annuities, founded by this Society, the moral obligation of all classes of making a provision for a family or for old age, is largely enhanced by the immediate advantages secured to the assured themselves. The details of the principles of the Society, its improvement in the system of Assurance, its economical arrangements in favour of the assured, its extensive Tables, &c. will be found in its Prospectus, which may be obtained at the Office of the Society, 26, Cornhill, London; or at any of its Branches throughout the country. F. FERGUSON CAMHOUX, Secretary.

FUTURE and EXISTING CHILDREN. FAMILY ENDOWMENT SOCIETY LIFE ASSURANCE and ANNUITY OFFICE, No. 12, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London. CAPITAL, 500,000l. By the new principles of Life Assurance and Deferred Annuities, founded by this Society, the moral obligation of all classes of making a provision for a family or for old age, is largely enhanced by the immediate advantages secured to the assured themselves. The details of the principles of the Society, its improvement in the system of Assurance, its economical arrangements in favour of the assured, its extensive Tables, &c. will be found in its Prospectus, which may be obtained at the Office of the Society, 26, Cornhill, London; or at any of its Branches throughout the country. F. FERGUSON CAMHOUX, Secretary.

ADVANTAGES OFFERED BY THIS SOCIETY. A married man, paying a yearly premium, or a single sum, varying according to the age of his wife, would secure to each of his future Children, however numerous, a specific sum on attaining any given age. EXAMPLES.—A wife aged 21—18s. 6d. Annual Premium for 21 years; or, 150l. 12s. 6d. paid in one sum, would entitle each Child attaining 21 years of age to 100l. Persons depending on income may, at a comparatively trifling cost, secure a sum sufficient to give all their Sons a Collegiate or Professional Education, and a Portion to each of their Daughters. Guardians, Trustees, &c. may thus provide for apprenticeship fees without diminishing the capital necessary to establish their wards in business. All persons may on easy terms insure their lives at this Office. Age. 30 40 50 60 Premium. £2 4 7 £3 0 3 £4 4 9 £6 5 5 Annuities of all kinds are also granted by the Society. The usual allowance made to Settlers, to whom, and all other persons arranging Marriage Settlements, or other pecuniary transactions, this Society offers peculiar advantages. JOHN CAZENOVE, Secretary.

STANDARD of ENGLAND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 5, King William-street, City.—Capital ONE MILLION. Directors.—Geo. Barclay, Esq. John Cathbert Joyner, Esq. William Cory, Esq. Henry Lawson, Esq. William Davis, Esq. James How, Esq. Lawrence Dorgan, Esq. J. R. Thompson Smyth, Esq. William Gunston, Esq. Frederick T. West, Esq. Maj.-Gen. C. Hodson, E.L.C.S. George Whitehead, Esq. Auditors.—George Pearson, Esq. Skinner Row, Esq., William Ayrscough Wilkinson, Esq.

Medical Officers. Francis H. Ramsbotham, M.D., 14, New Broad-street, City. W. Gwillim Merrett, Esq. Surgeon, 10, Leadenhall-street, City. THE very Economical Management of this Institution enables the Directors to offer to the Public the Lowest Rates of Premium, with perfect Security to the Assured; which will be found advantageous in all cases, and especially on Insurances for limited periods. Liberal Commissions are allowed to Solicitors and Agents. Increasing Rates of Premium.

Age.	First five Years.	Second five Years.	Third five Years.	Fourth five Years.	Remainder of Life.
15	0 19 4	1 3 5	1 7 11	1 13 1	1 18 10
25	1 3 6	1 8 7	1 14 5	2 1 4	2 9 7
35	1 10 4	2 2 12	2 10 12	3 4 4	3 8 4
45	2 4 6	2 14 8	3 7 4	4 3 6	5 3 3

By order of the Board of Directors, WM. WRIGHT, Sec.

ROYAL NAVAL, MILITARY, EAST INDIA, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Patroness—Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN. Directors.

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Annual Premium for Assuring 1000, on a single Life.											
15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70
1 13 10	1 16 11	1 19 12	2 0 12	2 2 12	2 4 12	2 6 12	2 8 12	3 0 12	3 2 12	3 4 12	3 6 12
1 13 10	1 16 11	1 19 12	2 0 12	2 2 12	2 4 12	2 6 12	2 8 12	3 0 12	3 2 12	3 4 12	3 6 12

WILLIAM DANIEL WATSON, Sec. A WEDDING SUN.—Her Majesty's Marriage is officially announced to take place on Monday next, the 10th inst. On this auspicious occasion 'The Sun' will contain the beautiful MEDALLION PORTRAITS of THE QUEEN and PRINCE ALBERT, executed in the very first style of the art. The expense of printing these Portraits has been very great, but the charge will only be one shilling. The Sun containing these Portraits may be received by post in all parts of the Kingdom. Parties in remote places can remit a shilling or two, have a sovereign, or a sovereign, for one penny by the post; and their orders will be punctually attended to on Monday night. 'The Sun' will also contain a full Account of the August Ceremony, with all particulars pertaining to so interesting an occasion. Orders for 'The Sun' or Wedding Sun will be received by all News Agents and Postmasters throughout the Kingdom; and at 'The Sun' Office, 112, Strand, London. Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1840.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1840.

REVIEWS

The Court and Camp of Runjeet Sing. By the Hon. W. G. Osborne. Colburn.

HAVING in our review of Prinsep's 'Life of Runjeet Sing' (No. 408) given, from the most authentic sources, a full account of the rise of the kingdom of Lahore, and the varied adventures of its late extraordinary sovereign, we need not enter into any examination of Mr. Osborne's very loose introduction to the brief history of his mission. We shall rather examine his notes relating to the mission itself, and from them, and from our own resources, give some account of the last days of the Maha-raja, and of the present state of the kingdom of Lahore. In the article to which we have referred, we stated that after the interview with Lord William Bentinck, the influence of old age, and, still more, of the infirmities produced by dissipation, began to manifest their effects on the mind of Runjeet Sing. His avarice became more blind to consequences: he began to yield to gross and offensive superstitions, and his political schemes were more frequently influenced by personal animosity than by sound judgment. Still he remained faithful to the English alliance, though it checked his favourite schemes, the conquest of Sind and the acquisition of territories west of the Indus. When General Allard, to whose skill the Sikhs are indebted for their high state of military discipline, visited Europe three or four years ago, he lamented to his friends the altered condition of the Rajah's mind, and expressed his fears that the Sikh monarchy would not be of long duration.

In the early part of 1838 great anxiety was felt respecting the security of India, in consequence of the siege of Herat by the Persians, the suspicion excited by Russian intrigues, and the very ambiguous conduct of Dost Mohammed, who, after having solicited and obtained the establishment of a British mission at Cabul, adopted such an equivocal course of conduct that the envoy, Sir Alexander Burnes, deemed it prudent to withdraw into the British dominions. Lord Auckland, at this crisis, visited Simlah: this place, as some of our readers may probably not know, is a station at a considerable height in the Himalayah mountains, which, from the beauty of its localities and the salubrity of its air, has become the Bath or Cheltenham of the Bengal and Delhi Presidencies. Here the Governor-general received a complimentary embassy from the court of Lahore, and took the opportunity of reciprocating the honour to cement the alliance with Runjeet Sing, and secure his co-operation in the proposed restoration of Shah Soojah.

This affair was one of greater delicacy and difficulty than would appear from Mr. Osborne's notes. All the Sikh chiefs had long regarded Afghanistan as their destined prey, and their success at Peshawar had sharpened their desire for marching to Candahar and Cabul. Similar projects were notoriously entertained by Runjeet himself in earlier days; and he had, besides, reason to fear that the English, in their unexpected generosity to Shah Soojah would not only demand the restoration of his dominions from the Barikzye brothers, but also require Runjeet himself to disgorge the jewels of which he had plundered the Shah when he came as a fugitive to claim the hospitalities of Lahore, especially the Koh-i-noor, or Mountain of Light, celebrated throughout the East as the largest diamond in the world.

Shortly after crossing the Sutlege, the English ambassadors were met by a son of Sher Sing, a

boy only seven years of age, but already such a favourite with the Sikhs that in any future commotion he is likely to be a competitor for the throne. Sher Sing was a natural son of Runjeet, but disowned by his father, and suspected by the court of intrigues with Europeans; he is said to have abandoned all ambition for himself, and concentrated his hopes in his son Pertaub.

"According to all precedent and custom, Sher Sing himself, and not his son, should have been sent to meet us; and the excuse for this apparent breach of etiquette was highly characteristic of the customs of the court of Lahore—namely, that the Shah Zadah Sher Sing had been a little overcome at a drinking party with the Maharajah the evening before, and was, in consequence, unable to travel. Pertaub Sing was handsomely dressed, armed with a small ornamented shield, sword, and matchlock, all in miniature, covered with jewels, and escorted by a small party of Sikh cavalry and some guns. His horse was naturally of a white colour, but dyed with henna to a deep scarlet. He is one of the most intelligent boys I ever met with, very good looking, with singularly large and expressive eyes. His manners are in the highest degree attractive, polished, and gentleman-like, and totally free from all the mauvaise honte and awkwardness so generally found in European children of that age."

Sher Sing's absence was soon further explained by an account of a scene which took place at court on the preceding day, when Runjeet inspected the deputation designed to meet the English embassy:—

"After complimenting Socket Sing upon the beauty of his dress and jewels, he addressed Sher Sing, and asked the reason why he was without his usual magnificent ornaments; who replied, touching the hilt of his sword, 'I am a soldier, and this is the only jewel I value.' Runjeet angrily insisted upon knowing what had become of them, and at last elicited the truth from Sher Sing, that they were in his own treasury, having been presented to him as a nuzzur, or complimentary gift, by Sher Sing, on the occasion of his paying him a friendly visit at his palace some months previous. Runjeet pretended to be very much annoyed, and immediately offered to restore them; but Sher Sing, soldier as he is, was much too clever and politic to accept them."

In nothing was the mental weakness of the Maha-raja, during his late days, more manifest than in his yielding to the influence of unworthy favourites:—

"Rajah Heera Sing, the son of the minister, a boy of eighteen years of age, is a greater favourite with Runjeet Sing than any other of the chiefs, not even excepting his father. His influence over Runjeet is extraordinary; and though acquired in a manner which in any other country would render him infamous for ever, here he is universally looked up to and respected. He is the only individual who ever ventures to address Runjeet Sing without being spoken to, and whilst his father stands behind his master's chair, and never presumes to answer him with unclasped hands, this boy does not hesitate to interrupt and contradict him in the rudest manner. One instance of the way in which he presumes upon the kindness of Runjeet Sing was the subject of public conversation at Adeenanuggur upon our arrival. The yearly tribute from Cachemire had arrived, and was, as usual, opened and spread upon the floor in the Durbar for the inspection of the Maharajah. It consisted of shawls, arms, jewels, &c., to the amount of upwards of thirty thousand pounds. Young Heera Sing, without the slightest hesitation, addressed Runjeet and said, 'Your Highness cannot require all these things; let me have them.' The answer was, 'You may take them.'"

Most of our readers will be anxious to learn something of Runjeet's regiment of Amazons, and we shall extract as much as can safely be told:—

"In the evening, a detachment of the Amazons arrived with music and fireworks. The establishment of this corps was one of Runjeet Sing's capricious whims, and the result of one of those drinking bouts which it was his delight, a few years ago, so

frequently to indulge in; though latterly, the state of his health and the earnest remonstrances of his medical advisers have induced him to limit his potations within more moderate bounds. There were originally about one hundred and fifty of those fair warriors, who were selected from the prettiest girls from Cachemire, Persia, and the Punjab. They were magnificently dressed, armed with bows and arrows, and used frequently to appear on horseback, mounted *en cavalier*, for the amusement of the Maharajah. They are allowed a small sum daily for subsistence, and there are few of them who have not succeeded in obtaining grants of small villages from Runjeet Sing, the rents of which they receive—and many contrive to realize a considerable sum of money. The Lotus told me she was the owner of seven good villages, received at different times from Runjeet as marks of his favour."

This expensive regiment was disbanded on the accession of Kurruck Sing, who had at least the merit of discountenancing the licentiousness and debauchery which disgraced the court of his father; but during his feeble and brief administration, the Akalees, who had been kept in order by the firmness of Runjeet, resumed their predatory habits, and are now the scourge of the country. Mr. Osborne gives us the following description of these marauders:—

"During my evening's ride I unfortunately got amongst a band of Akalees, and had to endure the usual quantity of abuse and blackguardism they make a point of so lavishly distributing to every one they meet. They are, without any exception, the most insolent and worthless race of people in India. They are religious fanatics, and acknowledge no ruler and no laws but their own; think nothing of robbery, or even murder, should they happen to be in the humour for it. They move about constantly, armed to the teeth, and it is not an uncommon thing to see them riding about with a drawn sword in each hand, two more in their belt, a matchlock at their back, and three or four pair of quoits fastened round their turbans. The quoit is an arm peculiar to this race of people; it is a steel ring, varying from six to nine inches in diameter, and about an inch in breadth, very thin, and the edges ground very sharp; they are said to throw it with such accuracy and force, as to be able to lop off a limb at sixty or eighty yards' distance; but I have several times invited them to show their dexterity, without witnessing any proof of it that could convince me of the truth of this supposed accuracy."

The account which Mr. Osborne gives of Lahore and of Runjeet's court is far inferior to that of Burnes; the only novelty he records is his detection of the frauds of the "burying Faker," an impostor who professed himself able to continue in the grave for weeks without respiration or food, and whose feats as a Thaumaturgist were long the subject of controversy in the Calcutta papers. It will be sufficient to say that the English gained their object by working on Runjeet's enmity to Dost Mohammed, and that the envoys returned loaded with gifts, which, much to their annoyance, they were forced to abandon to the Company.

Shortly afterwards an interview took place between Lord Auckland and Runjeet at Ferozpoor, with all the accompaniments of Oriental magnificence:—

"In the *champ de drap d'or* of Ferozpoor, Lord Auckland appeared with the imposing magnificence of an Indian potentate; and though the uniforms of the vice-regal staff were eclipsed by the jewels and chain armour of the Sikh Sardars, the Governor General, with his immense retinue and his escort of fifteen thousand men, was quite a match for the monarch of the Punjab. Besides the ceremonious interchange of visits, the principal objects of attraction appear to have been the splendid illuminations of the great mosque and city of Ferozpoor, and the military manoeuvres of the troops of both nations, in which none made so superb a display as the bodyguards of Runjeet. They were formed in a lane through which the Governor General and his court had to pass,

one troop dressed in yellow satin, with gold scarfs and shawls, the other in cloth of gold, scarlet, purple, or yellow; their arms all of gold; they had long beards down to their waists; and their heads were enveloped in a drapery of silver or gold tissue, which was brought over their beards to protect them from the dust."

Runjeet died a few months afterwards; he bequeathed his diamonds, including the Koh-i-noor, and his scarcely less splendid stud of horses, to various temples. His four wives, and five of his favourite Cashmerian Amazons, burned themselves on his funeral pile; and it was with difficulty that his prime minister was prevented from sharing their fate. Kurruck Sing has been already dethroned, and his son elevated to the *musnud*, but this adherence to legitimacy is the result of a fear of the British power; and there is too much reason to believe that the dissolution of the kingdom of Lahore is not very distant.

Even before the death of Runjeet, Mr. Osborne, like Burnes, Jacquemont, and Allard, speculated on the occupation of this country by the British; he says, with some truth, that "the Company having swallowed so many camels, need not strain at this gnat;" and he points out the obvious political and commercial advantages which must result from extending our north-eastern frontiers to the Indus. But can we stop at Lahore? What is to be done with Sind? The Upper Indus will be of comparatively little use unless we can command the mouth of the river, and that we can never hope to do with the consent of the court of Hyderabad. There is no doubt that the rulers of Sind are among the worst tyrants that can be found even in Asia, but they are highly popular for their strenuous attachment to Islamism; and an attack upon them might provoke a general insurrection of the Mussulmans throughout India.

The Effects of Literature upon the Moral Character: a Lecture delivered at the Tolsey, Gloucester. By J. G. Dowling, M.A. Rivingtons.

THERE is a small error in the title-page of this little volume, which it is necessary to correct. The work is not so much a lecture concerning the effects of literature on morality, as a denunciation of literature; and any person happening to know that it was delivered before the members of a literary and scientific association, and thence concluding that it must be an enlargement on the passage in Cicero's 'Pro Archia Poetâ,' will, on purchasing and perusing, find himself disappointed. The author belongs to that school which holds education in suspicion, or rather in horror. His object is not so much to encourage the good people of Gloucester in their pursuit of knowledge, as to warn them against meddling with edged tools. "Literature," he tells them, "is a sea in which the voyager has to expect inevitable shipwreck. No! not inevitable shipwreck," &c. &c. Again, in a note, he observes, "it may perhaps be complained that the view exhibited in this lecture supposes an amount of mental cultivation, as necessary for deriving any moral benefit from literature, which can never be obtained by the generality. It is, however, what I intend. To expect that secular knowledge of any sort is ever likely to produce any beneficial effect upon the moral condition of society in general, is mere fanaticism." Against this absurd and degrading estimate we protest, not only as being altogether false and contrary to experience, but as a libel on the moral nature of man. It is false that literature, with all its sins upon its head, is indifferent to virtue; or that the moral law is so much a mystery to man's intelligence, or so repugnant to his feelings, that he should deviate from its dictates, the more widely, the more

capable he becomes of examining them. To all perverse declaimers against human nature, we reply that man does exist—that society does subsist,—and that in these bare facts are included the consequence that virtue prevails over vice, that order prevails over anarchy. With all man's proneness to evil, there is more forbearance, more self-denial, more love of good, and sympathy for the species, necessary to enable one struggling, half-starved couple to rear a family, under the prevailing circumstances of a laborious life, than would compensate for all the crimes of a county gaol: and we affirm, that the Mucklewrath denunciations, poured out in such works as the present, are as mischievous as they are false, and as dangerous to the best interests of earth, as they are derogatory to the wisdom and the goodness of God. It is full time that the common sense of mankind should arm itself against this Vandalism,—that men should cease to crouch beneath the calumnies fulminated against human nature, which, after all, is the work of God. The moral world, like the physical, may have its storms and its earthquakes, but harvests are brought to perfection, the sea is navigated, and the cities of men are not all Pompeiis or Limas: and so it is with man. The mind is sick sometimes, as the body is; but health is the rule, sickness the exception, alike in both instances; and there is something else in the habitations of men besides prisons and lazar houses.

But if human nature be not absolutely perverse,—if nations, unassisted by the lights of science or of revelation, have worked out for themselves the bases of social polity, and a rude, but wholesome code of natural morality,—if the least educated and developed of savage tribes have discovered "sermons in stones, and good in everything," it is manifestly untrue that a greater education than can be placed within the reach of the generality, is necessary to the turning literature to a moral account. Morality is neither so abstruse, nor are its temporal sanctions so remote that they are easily mistaken. Literature appeals to the sympathies of the species, and to the charities of society. It is (speaking generally) the voice of the choicest spirits of mankind—of the noblest, of the purest. As to the men of genius who "have sometimes condescended to serve the cause of error and licentiousness," the orator justly protests "against their being regarded as citizens of the republic of letters at all;" but, these being put on one side, we hold that the moralities of literature are not so difficult to get at; and that there is no book of moderate talent bearing upon human life, from which an ordinary mind may not extract some useful truth. We readily admit that between goodness and intelligence, the union is not a strict necessity; that literature is but the embodying of men's thoughts, and must therefore sometimes reflect the errors and the vices, as well as the wisdom, of their nature. We admit also that education is but an instrument, and, like any other instrument, may be abused, or more or less effectually employed; but the consequences drawn in this lecture from such premises, are not the less mere fallacies, which the slightest appeal to history suffices to overthrow. If for one moment it be considered, that virtue is the rule by which man as a species is enabled to extract the greatest happiness out of external nature, by a conformity to its laws, it will be perceived that knowledge, secular knowledge, must be necessary to its development. Good and evil are not abstractions, but have a close relation to realities; and these relations must be known, in order that virtue shall be preferred and practised. Even in respect to spiritual things, it is not enough to love righteousness as an abstraction: the law must be known in its

details; and the educated religionist does differ something from the ignorant fanatic,—the worshipper of a graven image from the adorer of an almighty and living God. No one ever pretended that a knowledge of the multiplication table corrects a disposition to fraud, or that a thorough acquaintance with natural science makes of every *savant* a Howard or a Fenelon; but the *commune quoddam vinculum* nevertheless does exist; and if it cannot be denied that the theologian and the divine are, *cæteris paribus*, better teachers, for the secular knowledge they derive from their *alma mater*, it would be difficult to show why the same rule should not apply to the humblest; or why the most lowly should not be better hearers, for possessing similar advantages. How much wiser, on this point, was the Pagan of antiquity than the writer before us: "I have known," he says, "it is true, many men of excellent and virtuous dispositions, who, without learning, were, by an almost divine nature, of themselves moderate and exemplary; and I own that native worth without learning, is capable of greater things than learning without a good disposition; but I do not the less contend, that a singular and distinguished virtue is most usually found where a noble nature is strengthened and confirmed by a rational doctrine." But if doctrine be thus beneficial to the noblest natures, how much more so to the ordinary and common-place, who make up the masses of society! It is not to be forgotten that this judgment was given, not in reference to religious or philosophical instruction, but in the case of a poet: it refers therefore most especially to that polite literature, which the Gloucester orator has set himself to discredit; and the Roman goes on to remark with a perfect knowledge of the human heart,—"But if learning produced none of these desirable fruits, if amusement were the sole end of these studies, still I should hold its relaxations to be of a most liberal and humanizing tendency." Looking, as we do, in these days, from a more elevated region of science, we may go further, and assert without fear of refutation, that some secular knowledge is absolutely necessary, to prevent the most fatal misapplications of spiritual truths; and that the greater may be the sum of such knowledge diffused among the people, the less ground is there for apprehension, lest religion should degenerate into that *optimi corruptio pessima*, fanaticism.

We have dwelt on this subject till the commentary has almost equalled the text in extent, not on account of any originality or strength in the sophistical argument, but because the pretension, scarcely concealed beneath its surface, of seizing on the human mind, and drilling it to passive obedience, has become latterly more assuming and arrogant. The world, indeed, is too old to have much to fear from such pretensions. Men will read, in spite of all opposition; and will sometimes think, in spite of assiduous misleading. Still considerable effort and delay may be prevented, and much suffering and contention may be averted, by a timely assertion of the truth, and an appeal to the latent good sense of a somewhat pre-occupied public.

Austria. By Peter Evan Turnbull, Esq., F.R.S. 2 vols.

[Second Notice.]

We shall now advert to the subject of Education, which in Austria is not an occasional care, but a paramount state obligation, viewed "as a mighty engine to mould the public mind, and to cement it together in a bond of cordial union with her existing institutions." The principles upon which the educational policy is founded are stated to be—*first*, that the state shall alone direct the education of all its subjects, in every grade of society; and *secondly*, the

connexion of all education with religion. Here, again, proselytism is rigidly excluded; every pupil being compelled to receive religious instructions from the pastor of the communion in which he is registered, and the testimonials of that instruction being necessary to every step of his future progress in life. "While she makes religion the basis of all education, she so extends that basis as to comprehend the dogmas of every recognized persuasion; and while she commits the charge of supervision to the clergy, she sternly compels that clergy, whatsoever be the creed they profess, to the inculcation of those truths and doctrines, and those only, which may have been specifically put forth by their respective ruling consistories, and been sanctioned by the supreme authority of the state."

Subject to the control of the Central Board or Council of Education, which is composed *exclusively* of laymen appointed by the crown, there are in the Austrian dominions six classes of schools;—there are the *gymnasial*, for classical learning, mathematics, and elementary philosophy; the *popular*, in which instruction is imparted of a more practical character to those whose station in life does not fit them for the studies of the gymnasium; the other four are of a special nature, corresponding with the four faculties of the Universities,—namely, the schools of Philosophy, Medicine, Theology, and Law.

The popular schools are, of course, the most important of the six classes. They are inspected and directed by the parochial incumbents, with whom it is not optional to perform this service, it being as much a part of his duty as the discharge of his religious functions.

"The whole of these establishments are organized with a view to their strict uniformity of system, and to their connexion with some one or more of the religious professions recognized by the state. The popular schools are inspected and directed by the parochial incumbent, who, with a view to this duty, is bound to receive instruction, previous to his induction to a benefice, in the system of scholastic management, or, as it is termed in the language of the edicts, the *science of pedagogy*. He is required, at least twice in every week, at certain fixed hours, to examine and catechize the pupils, and to impart to them religious instruction; the parish, or district, being obliged to provide him with a carriage for that purpose when the schools he visits are distant from his residence. He orders removals from lower to higher classes, and grants those certificates, without which no pupil can pass from the popular school to the gymnasium. He is bound to render periodically, statistical and discriminating returns on the state of the schools, both to his spiritual superior, and to the Kreisamt; to urge on parents the great importance of education to their offspring; and to supply books to those who cannot afford to purchase them, and clothes (so far as the poor-fund or private contributions may enable him to do so) to such as, for want of clothing, are prevented attending the schools. Where children of different creeds are intermixed in one school, religious instruction and catechization is confined to the last hour of the morning and afternoon attendance, during which hour the non-Romanists are dismissed, to receive instruction elsewhere from their respective pastors; but where the number of non-Romanists is sufficiently great to support a separate school, the minister of that persuasion, whatever it may be, is charged exclusively with the same duties as, in the general schools, are imposed on the parish priest. To ministers of all professions an equal recourse is, by the terms of the ordinances, allowed to the aid of the poor-fund and of the grants from the Kreisamt. If the schools be too distant or too numerous for the proper supervision of the local minister, a separate instructor is named by the bishop; or if the school be Protestant, by the provincial superintendent; and, for the visitors of all denominations, the expense of a carriage is equally borne by the public. Except in the points above enumerated, the parochial minister has no power to act, but only to report: in all those connected with defects or deficiencies of the buildings, he, in conjunc-

tion with the civil commissary, reports to the Kreisamt; and in those of a merely scholastic nature, as well as in the conduct of the teachers, he addresses his remarks to the inspector of the district."

The Austrian system of education differs from the Prussian, in not being compulsory, or enforced by penalties upon the parent. But, says, Mr. Turnbull: "Although no ordinances compel education, yet the inducements held out to desire it are so great, that for the popular schools there is a constantly increasing demand, partly arising from the people themselves, and partly instigated by the spiritual and civil authorities; and indeed so urgent of late years have been the applications to this effect, that it has become a usual practice to require of the parishioners, or inhabitants of the district petitioning, that they shall bind themselves by voluntary assessment to bear the whole or a portion of the attendant expenses." The efforts of the government to educate have been far more successful in the German, than in the Hungarian and Polish provinces. We are told, that in Hungary the system of popular instruction is opposed avowedly by a most influential section in the Diet, who fear that it would prove a source of danger to property, if unaccompanied with a greater extension of civil rights. If sincere in this objection, the course for the Hungarian nobles to pursue would be, to increase the liberty of the people to render it safe to enlighten them. Mr. Turnbull, however, tells us, that they are not disposed to prove their sincerity in this manner. The progress of education in Hungary must altogether depend upon the perseverance of the central government to diffuse it. In the whole empire, exclusive of Hungary, above three-fifths of the juvenile population are actually receiving scholastic education.

Not including Hungary and Transylvania, the following table exhibits the numbers of those "capable of going to school," and "actually going to school" in the Austrian dominions:

Capable of going to School.	Males	1,307,777
	Females	1,221,394
		2,529,171
Actually going to School.	Males	874,720
	Females	661,384
		1,536,104

We shall now give the author's concluding remarks upon this branch of his subject, in which he paints the effects of the educational system of Austria upon the character of the people.

"It has been seen that the great aim of the government is to extend education as far as possible to all classes of its subjects; but to do so in such a manner as to lead to a peculiar formation of mind—a formation which shall render them contented and useful in their respective stations, and repel the ambition of rising above them. The result corresponds with the intention. When the mere wants of nature are supplied (and this, except on bare limestone rocks is almost invariably the case, either from the wages of industry, or from public or private benevolence,) no people on earth are so happy in themselves as the Austrians,—no people are more attached to their existing institutions,—more mild and kindly in their dispositions towards others,—more free from harsh and malignant passions. Patient, docile, and obedient, they are faithful subjects, soldiers and servants. Tranquil and enjoying, they are benevolent superiors, landlords and masters. Simple minded in the belief of their own religion, whatsoever it be, and preserved by the strong hand of government from overbearing controversial discussion, they are tolerant and indifferent as to the creeds of others. Well instructed in practical science, they are excellent military and civil engineers and artificers; and as good general mechanics and manufacturers as the rest of the Germans. On the other hand, without being indolent, they are careless and unenergetic in their general pursuits—regardless of the value of time—and without that ambition to excel, which brings enterprise to perfection. Their classical acquirements, even at their principal universities, are

rarely adequate to render them able critics or profound scholars. Their easiness of temper produces, in certain respects, a somewhat lax and indulgent morality; and in point of daring original genius, it is rare to see a work of literature, art, or science, proceed from an Austrian."

The chapter on the morals of the Austrian empire commences with the following judicious general observations upon the difficulty of obtaining correct information or arriving at a sound opinion as to the state of ethics in a foreign nation:—

"In no point is the observer of human nature so liable to fall into misconceptions and errors, to be deceived by superficial appearances, and misled by partial information, as in the estimate he forms of general national morality. It is a subject which the candid foreigner will especially approach with caution and diffidence. He will be wary of forming a decision on the social character of other countries when he reflects how little he really knows of its condition in his own; how mainly his ideas are founded on what he has been accustomed to survey, in the peculiar localities and conditions of life wherein he himself has moved; how much he is prone to over and to under-rate particular good and evil qualities, in proportion as his own station, circumstances, and temperament may more or less dispose him to certain of the former, and more or less subject him to certain of the latter. On documentary statements he will hardly venture to place much reliance. Those founded on private estimate and computation are usually tinged with partiality and prejudice, and must at all events be inadequate to the establishment of fact—while the public records of correctional or criminal tribunals present, it may be hoped, only exceptive cases, as regards society at large; and these cases will appear more or less proportionably numerous as the police of a district or a country may be more or less lax or severe, indifferent or suspicious. The actions and habits which evince the real character will, in the bulk, be usually such as can hardly enter into statistical tables of any sort; and the person who has largely surveyed mankind in various countries and conditions, and who bears in mind that Christian as well as natural morals comprehend all the duties of man, as a social and a rational being, will probably arrive at the belief that, however peculiar excellencies or defects may be prominent in peculiar states or stations, the average of aggregate moral character, is much more nearly equal than at the outset of his inquiries he may have been inclined to suppose."

This is excellent, and contains a lesson which is too little impressed on the minds of travellers. Mr. Turnbull is not guilty of the absurdity of decrying tables of statistics—an absurdity which has of late, we have observed, grown fashionable with a certain class of pert political writers—he only inculcates caution in drawing conclusions from such imperfect data as most statistical returns are. There is no doubt but that such tables or returns contain materials of the greatest value to an inquirer into the condition of a people; but it is equally certain that we have rarely before us a sufficient body of statistical information to warrant such peremptory judgments as are pronounced too frequently on the faith of a few meagre tables. The conclusions of mathematicians are properly announced with the fullest confidence, because the mathematician knows that he has the whole of the evidence before him. He is certain of his result, because he is certain that there is no omitted premiss in the chain of his reasonings. With the moralist and politician it is otherwise. In the complex science of man as a social being, there is nothing so difficult, nothing so rare, as to have the whole of the case before our view. The field is so wide, and the number of circumstances for consideration so vast, that few general propositions can rest upon a basis of fact sufficiently comprehensive to support them; and few writers have either the patience or the ability to limit their conclusions to the precise extent of their

information. In subjects like these, nothing is therefore so common as the error so happily described by Locke, of "seeing a little, presuming a great deal, and jumping to a conclusion." The fault, however, is not in statistical tables, but in the rash and unphilosophical use of them. You cannot deduce the morality of a people from a criminal calendar or the report of inspectors of prisons, as you calculate the tangent of a given angle by the columns of a logarithmic table. Indeed, as the author observes justly, the public records of crime consist rather of the exceptions to the general state of morals, than fair specimens of it. Such records afford the materials for judging of the state of the law, and the mode of its administration, not the grounds for properly estimating the national morality and character.

The prevalent virtues of the Austrian population are traced by Mr. Turnbull to the absence of criminal excitement, produced by the action of the entire frame of the political system, particularly the religious and educational institutions of the empire. He enumerates temperance, honesty, aversion to violence, and habitual benevolence of disposition, as qualities characteristic of the German States especially. Drunkenness, we are informed, is hardly ever seen, except in Hungary and along the military frontier. The German notations of enjoyment are either a light beer, or that meagre beverage which an Austrian calls wine, and which would produce exhilaration in no one but himself. In the chapter on Criminal Jurisprudence, the author states the view taken by the law of Austria of the vice of inebriety, which, the reader will not fail to observe, differs considerably from the light in which it is regarded by the laws of England. Drunkenness in Austria is not in itself a misdemeanour, except in particular cases,—such as those of workmen and domestic servants. In general, it is only punished when, under its influence, an act is done which would have amounted to a crime if done by a sober person. It is then visited with imprisonment in irons for various terms, which sentence is doubled when experience has taught an offender that, under the influence of liquor, he was not master of his own actions. Here, we observe, it is the drunkenness that is punished, not, as with us, the crime committed in that state. The English law holds drunkenness to be an aggravation of crime, and will not allow a man to plead that he was not master of his actions when he committed an assault, or even perpetrated an homicide. The Austrian principle seems more reasonable, although, no doubt, we should be rash in attributing the prevalent sobriety of the people to the mere terror of the law.

Another very general source of crime from which Mr. Turnbull states that the people of Austria are characteristically free, is covetousness, or greediness of gain. He traces this to the influence of early moral education, inculcating contentment as its first object; and he might also, we think, have partly ascribed it to the influence and example of a body of laborious and moderately paid clergy, combining the double office of ministers of religion, and instructors of youth. It is, however, to be feared that the Austrian system, in plucking out the principle of avarice, eradicates also the motives to enterprise, and that ambition of personal advancement, which is no less the source of private affluence than the fount of national wealth and greatness. Such has ever been the narcotic influence of absolute governments; sometimes cherishing, indeed, the weaker and milder virtues, but always paralyzing the harder and manlier qualities of the human character. The energies of the Austrian despotism are employed in breaking down the energies of the people. Never was an administration more active and

vigilant, but the effects of its vigour are to be seen in the inactivity and indolence of society under its sway. The mind of man is torpid, his arm feeble, his spirit stands continually rebuked before the wakeful eye of a supreme omnipresent power. The state is everywhere, like the glance of a schoolmaster; the entire empire is one academy, and the national order and tranquillity is more the subordination of a well-regulated school, than the flourishing peace of a commonwealth of men. Everything is done by licence; there is a rule for every action of life; the empire prescribes the very looks and thoughts of the vast population that obeys it. The evils that exist under free governments may be great, but the methods taken by autocracies to remedy or prevent them, produce evils of a worse kind. The wildness of liberty is better and safer than the tameness and lethargy of the most parental despotism. What is man without the ardour of enterprise, without the daring of genius, without independence of action, without freedom of thought and speech? Enterprise may degenerate into avarice—genius may have its aberrations—actions may be extravagant, speech licentious, and "thoughts such as bring down thunder;" but freedom is to blame for none of these excesses; on the contrary, the only true restraint upon them, and remedy for them, is to be found in the institutions of free states. "Malo periculosam libertatem quam quietam servitutem," exclaimed a brave Palatine once in the Polish diet; and "a quiet slavery" is, in three words, as accurate a description as can be given of the condition of society in Austria.

We have already noticed the restraints upon religious controversy: the policy of the empire is to suppress public discussion upon all questions political or religious, thus fettering the human mind, and forbidding all exercise of its powers, not expressly warranted by the sovereign authority. The author is not insensible of the demoralizing tendencies mixed up with the tranquillizing, or rather stupifying, influence of Austrian dominion. He observes—

"With regard to the population at large, it is no pleasing task to touch on defects and deficiencies, where the amiable and kindly qualities so much prevail; but the observer of human nature will at once perceive, that the easiness of character, which I have described as prevailing among the Austrian people, cannot be favourable to the exercise of the sterner virtues. Injury to the person and property of others will be restricted by want of inclination rather than by principle—habits of personal self-control will be little practised, and, perhaps, little valued—a mutual indulgence will be granted and reciprocated to what are termed the weaknesses of our nature, where they appear to be untainted with malignity—and the general happiness will, perhaps, be rather promoted and sustained by a sort of habitual good-nature, than by a sense of moral duty. There is a sophistry in the human heart, by no means peculiar to Austria, which finds in habit, circumstance, absence of evil motive, and other asserted palliatives, an excuse for what cannot be denied to be a deviation from the strictness of rectitude. Thus, fraud and corruption exist in the various departments of the public service (although not, in my belief, to the extent sometimes alleged), promoted and perpetrated by persons, whose private relations of man with man are still marked with the usual characteristics of faith and integrity. Thus too, the harsh and angry tone of mind exhibited in English political and religious discussion, is condemned as fatally hostile to the spirit of Christianity, by a people who view with lenient indulgence those aberrations of conduct, which in England are held to upset the very foundation of Christian morals."

A shackled press is, of course, a necessary part of the Austrian system, and a principal engine for maintaining it. The author thus vividly describes the nature of the tyranny exercised over authors and their works, by the all-pervading despotism of the empire:—

"Twelve censors are established at Vienna, by some one of whom must be read and approved, every manuscript proposed to be printed; and if it be the case of an Austrian reprint of a foreign book, then the whole of the book must be equally supervised. In the provinces, a faculty of licensing mere ordinary publications rests with local functionaries; but every work, and indeed every passage having a political tendency, must be referred to the authorities of the capital. The censor having received the manuscript, exercising his own taste and judgment in the enasure or alteration of such passages as he disapproves; and being generally some phlegmatic personage, well imbued with the genius of the government, one great object of his care is to exclude all expressions which might appeal to the imagination or the passions of the reader. Thus, a case was mentioned to me, of a work treating of conflicts quite unconnected with the Austrian empire, where the expression 'heroic champions' was cut down to 'brave soldiers;' and 'a band of youthful heroes who flocked around the glorious standard of their country,' became, 'a considerable number of young men who voluntarily enlisted themselves for the public service.' I was even informed by a learned professor, at a foreign university, that the Austrian reprint of a scientific work, whereof he was the author, had been suspended, until he consented to the removal of a passage, expressing among the medicinal qualities of some plant, that it was occasionally used for an immoral purpose. The effect of this jealous and mischievous system may be easily conceived. An appeal is indeed allowed from the censor to the minister; but this is rarely more than a mere nominal privilege; and the delays and procrastinations connected with the revision of manuscripts is a greater evil than even the mutilations themselves. A twelve-month may probably elapse, before an octavo volume is pronounced sufficiently orthodox to be published; the supervision of the censors is in many cases delegated in part to their confidential subordinates; and the result of the whole is, that, save mere practical works on the arts and sciences, philosophy and theology, statistical treatises and history, sobered down to the mere recital of facts, very few are the publications that emanate from the Austrian press. The wings of imagination are pretty closely clipped by education and early habit; but, should they ever perchance expand and soar aloft, they usually take their flight across the Austrian frontier, and alight in the more congenial regions of Leipsic, Nuremberg, or Stuttgart."

Imagine the fate of a poet under such a government. The great object of the censor's care is "to exclude all expressions which might appeal to the imagination or the passions of the reader!" Oratory and poetry are permitted in Austria, on the simple conditions that the poet shall not affect the imagination, or the orator work upon the passions. Let all poets without fancy, and orators without eloquence, flock to Vienna, and they may rest assured of obtaining imperial patronage for their rhymes and speeches. We could supply the Emperor with a few bards and rhetoricians, who would be sure to pass the ordeal of his censorship. But an appeal is allowed from the censor to the minister! What a glorious privilege for the man of letters. Imagine the author who wrote "heroic champions," and had it cut down to "brave soldiers," lodging his appeal to the Metternich tribunal, and prosecuting a suit in the Literary Chancery to get rid of the injunction upon the more poetic phrase. We should like to see a report of one of these causes instituted by a man of wit or eloquence, to maintain his rights to the use of a brilliant metaphor or a bold figure of speech. It is to be hoped the proceedings in the Austrian courts of literature are more rapid than in our English courts of law, otherwise years would pass ere the "brave soldier" could hope to be exalted into the "heroic champion," or "the young men who voluntarily enlisted themselves" dream of being elevated into a "band of youthful heroes." What an infinite field of litigation would be opened in Austria by the *Paradise Lost*,

or any one production of our Milton. Metternich would be worse than a hundred Bentleys. The Austrian censorship acts with a fifty-Bowdler power upon all the productions of the press, and the state of literature may be imagined where every book in the country is upon the model of the Family Shakespeare. Where restriction is the rule, the newspaper press is of course most strictly fettered:—

"Of Newspapers containing political information two only are published at Vienna, and one or perhaps two, in most of the provincial capitals; all of which are under strict censorship. Of home intelligence they contain scarcely a syllable, except official appointments, the ordinances of government, statements of authorized public bodies, and the movements of great personages; but of all that passes in foreign countries, they are allowed to render a tolerably fair and full account. Thus it is, that in the Austrian Observer, may be read in abstract the debates of the British parliament, with translations of a few principal speeches, in which respect equal justice seems to be rendered to those of Lord Melbourne and Mr. Hume, as to those of Lord Lyndhurst and Sir Robert Peel: but of the discussions in the Hungarian diet, which is sitting within fifty miles of Vienna, never is any report permitted to be rendered. Of foreign journals, none are allowed to be circulated in coffee-houses, or public reading-rooms, but such as are specially authorized by the government; and these are few in number: but it must be allowed that the selection evinces no disinclination on the part of the state, that full and impartial intelligence should be conveyed to its subjects. One of the authorized papers is, the *Allgemeine Zeitung, or Augsburg Gazette*, probably the most general and authentic record published in any continental country, of all European concerns. Another is, and always has been, our own '*Times*;' and it is a remarkable and creditable fact that, however the political views of that journal may have varied with circumstances,—however it may, at certain periods have indulged in sarcasm, and invective against Austrian ministers and Austrian policy, no interruption took place in its free circulation."

There is no denying the Austrian régime the praise of consistency and completeness. The knowledge which the state deems harmful is shut out, not at one entrance alone, but at all the approaches of the human understanding. The empire leaves nothing to accident. The restrictive policy never slumbers or sleeps. The very ideas of the people bear the imperial stamp upon them, like their weights and measures. Their very words issue from the centre of government, like their gold and silver from the mint. The tranquillity, thus artificially produced, is not wholesome, and cannot be other than precarious. The healthy repose of nations must arise from the natural and free motions of the thoughts, sentiments, and feelings of the people. Quiet may be deep, without being constitutional and enduring, and such we believe is the political tranquillity of an empire where order is not the result of opinion, but of mere obedience; where harmony flows not from conviction after discussion, but from acquiescence without any; where the virtues of the people are but compliances with edicts and maxims of state policy; and where the sole security for personal or public welfare consists in the fortunate contingency of a monarch with benign dispositions, or without the ordinary ills that attend ambition.

Sir Martin Archer Shee's Plan for the Encouragement of Historical Painting, &c.

[Second Notice.]

It is some time since President Shee submitted his 'Outlines of a Plan for the National Encouragement of Historical Painting,' which, as the suggestion of a judicious and experienced man, a professor, and superintendent of the profession, a moderate enthusiast likewise, and not the least of a fancymonger, has claims on public consideration beyond what dilettanti opinions and

projects can plead. A voice from the midst of London is, however, often less audible than a voice from the Antipodes: although Sir Martin's proposition was addressed thirty years since to the Directors of the British Institution, and again to the principal Secretary of State, Lord John Russell, we apprehend it has not made quite so deep an impression as "the owl's scream and the cricket's cry" did upon less patriotic minds. The Home Minister, it is probable, gave it a polite official reception, and the Directors, after pondering over its grave substance, like a *memento mori*, and putting it down in their tablets as a matter worthy eternal remembrance, dropped a tear on the record, and blotted it out for ever. How could it by any means catch the popular ear, albeit multifold and enormous, through the roll and rumble of so many railway trains, rendering our countrymen as deaf as adders to the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely? Indeed, were its subject a piece of court scandal, 't would have been blown about on every wind, like Midas's secret, and have risen, like a Stentorean whisper, above every din, and seared our eyeballs in every newspaper: dowagers whose faculties had deserted them, misses who had not yet come to theirs, would have heard, understood, and savoured it with all the gusto of malice; the most sequestered and solemn beves of old maids, affianced to Religion for lack of other spouse, such precious intelligence would have revealed itself quicker to them than a New Light, titillated them to rapture, and been repeated each night before family-prayers: both the idle and the active, every age, sex, rank, and tribe, would have swallowed down the moral pollution like sweetmeats, and licked their lips while it broke out at them again: but the subject before us, being meant to excite a pure, instead of a prurient taste, moves no desire for it whatever. Let our columns give this plan another chance to escape the non-attention of the public,—let us send it forth on a final and forlorn hope of success, if mayhap the stronghold of prejudice against exalted Art be not altogether impregnable. Though our author flatter himself that his pamphlet still continues *volitare per ora virum*, it can only be in the sense of grazing their heads without sinking into them; and we much doubt, when it does by accident strike them, whether it does not give them only a shock, and itself fall to the ground like a beetle, with maledictions upon it for a nuisance. We jeopardize our own favour by thus bringing it again before the public, curtailed of all its fair proportions, reduced to its skeleton, or indeed its mere spine: but probably even so it will enable the sagacious reader, as a few vertebræ would a comparative anatomist, to guess at the whole frame:—

"1. National Prizes to be instituted for the Encouragement of the higher Department of Painting and the Cultivation of a more elevated Taste in the Arts.

"2. These Prizes to be divided into three classes, and decreed with public solemnity, every third year.

"3. The first class to consist of three prizes, and to be appropriated to those who, by a noble application of their powers, shall most successfully promote the cause of religion and morality; stimulate the growth of public virtue, and commemorate the glories of our country.

"4. The second class to consist also of three prizes, and to be devoted to subjects drawn from ancient history, poetry, or romance, less extensive, or on a smaller scale.

"5. The third class to consist of three prizes, to be of a more miscellaneous character than the foregoing, but still to be limited to such subjects as usually come under the description of historical Art.

"6. The subjects of the first class to be chosen by the Artists themselves, from Sacred or British History; each picture to consist of at least thirteen

figures, the size of life; and no picture to exceed the dimensions of the Cartoons of Raphael at Hampton Court.

"7. The first prize of the first class to be three thousand pounds; the second prize two thousand; and the third prize one thousand pounds.

"8. The subjects of the second class to be chosen also by the Artists who are to execute them; each picture to consist of at least seven figures, the size of life; and if on a smaller scale, to contain not less than thirteen figures. No picture of this class to be under the dimensions of the well-known picture of the Death of Wolfe, by the President, West.

"9. The first prize of the second class to be fifteen hundred pounds; the second prize one thousand; and the third prize seven hundred and fifty pounds.

"10. The subjects of the third class to be chosen by the Artists themselves, but within the limitation before specified. The pictures to be unrestricted as to number of figures, this class being intended to embrace all such productions of the pencil, whether consisting of one figure or more, which in point of size or subject cannot properly be put in competition with those of the other classes. No picture in this class to be of smaller dimensions than those of the Sacraments, by Poussin.

"11. The first prize of the third class to be seven hundred and fifty pounds; the second prize five hundred; and the third prize three hundred pounds.

"12. A remuneration of five hundred pounds to be granted to each of the three candidates of the first class, who shall be judged to be the most deserving of those who shall have failed to obtain a prize in that class.

"13. A remuneration of three hundred pounds to be granted to each of the three candidates of the second class who shall be judged to be the most deserving of those who shall have failed to obtain a prize in that class.

"14. A remuneration of one hundred and fifty pounds to be granted to each of the three candidates of the third class who shall be judged the most deserving of those who shall have failed of obtaining a prize in that class.

"15. The pictures which shall have obtained prizes to become the property of the nation, and to be presented as an honourable decoration to some of our churches, palaces, or public halls.

"16. The pictures which shall have obtained the first prizes to be placed, if possible, in some conspicuous station in the metropolis: some of the others to be occasionally presented to the public halls of our principal corporate towns, to excite emulation in the provinces, and promote a taste for the Arts in the country.

"17. The pictures which shall not have obtained prizes to remain at the disposal of the artists by whom they shall have been painted.

"18. All the works painted in concurrence for the national prizes to be publicly exhibited in the rooms of the British Gallery, at the usual price of admission, for two months; one month before, and one month after, the adjudication of the prizes.

"19. The profits of the exhibition to be divided amongst those artists who shall not have obtained a prize or a remuneration, in such proportions as may appear the best calculated to reimburse them for the expense of their frames and materials. Provided, that such proportions shall not exceed one hundred and fifty pounds to a candidate of the first class; one hundred to a candidate of the second; and fifty pounds to a candidate of the third class.

"20. A Committee of the Directors of the British Institution, assisted by a committee of the Royal Academy, to examine all the works offered for the triennial prizes; and no picture to be received, which shall be deemed unworthy to concur in this great national convention.

"21. No production which shall be considered to have an immoral tendency, however skillfully executed, to be received in any class; and no painter to be, on any account, admitted as a candidate for a national prize, who shall be known to have at any time disgraced the character of an artist, and perverted the powers of his art, by applying them to such pernicious subjects.

"22. No picture to be received, which shall have been painted before the public notification of the in-

stitution of the national prizes; and no alteration or repainting of a picture previously painted to be considered as sufficient to preclude the application of this rule.

"23. The national prizes to be open to all artists, without distinction of rank or country, who shall have been, during three years preceding the triennial adjudication, established residents in any part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

"24. Every artist who proposes to concur for the national prizes, to give notice in writing to the Directors of the British Institution, at least eighteen months preceding the period of adjudication; in which notice he shall specify in what class he desires to become a candidate."

This very temperate and sober plan for the exaltment of Fine Art in England, will not, we imagine, make the author, and ourselves who abet him, be classed among the externs of Bedlam; and yet we dare say, many impolitico-economists will cry out upon it as a mere waste-pipe for the taxes to run through; whilst the public will condemn it as the next thing to madness—a cloud-born project, which a counterblast of scorn should puff away to the place of its birth. If it experience no better reception, we should indeed pronounce it a very questionable piece of sanity, and all its supporters at least great simpletons, for having ever entertained the phantasm that elevation of English Art was possible.

Our author's Letter to Hunne is a spirited and clever, though withal a rather furibund defence of the Royal Academy. He seems to wish it should acknowledge him, not only its President, but its preserver,—"O et presidium, et dulce decus meum!"—a laudable ambition. Something of this fierce *esprit de corps*, unless it were rather his national genius, must have precipitated him into the confusion of ideas at pp. 19 and 20: here he denies that the said Body Corporate ever "derived support from any public fund;" and next sentence admits "sixty years undisputed possession of a tenement provided for us by George the Third." Pray was not this same tenement raised from the public funds? or was it less a support derived therefrom, because it came through the King? Was the King's name itself no support; was it not a "host on their side;" and if so, are they to set up such a claim of complete Independence? Again, let us ask—how much rent do they pay for their half of Trafalgar Square Gallery? And if they hold it scot-free, does this constitute no support from the public? By Sir Martin's statement (and we mean not to impeach his credit), it would seem, they have "devoted nearly three hundred thousand pounds to the promotion of public objects, without making a single inroad on the national purse." Always excepted, we beg leave to remark, the sixty years rent of Somerset House, and free lease per annum of their present residence. But their devoted three hundred thousand pounds! Why, if able to exert this prodigious liberality, artists need scarce put up such a perpetual *eleven*, such a pauper-howl, about their neglected and woe-begone condition. Again, however, let us see: from what veritable goose have dropped those three hundred thousand golden eggs above mentioned? Are they not, in fact, the three-score hundred thousand *shillings* drawn by Exhibitions from *visitors' pockets*? And is this no public support, Mr. President? True, the

† By way of rider to our amendment, we would ask what be these "public objects" which our author speaks of the Royal Academy having promoted? Are they not the objects of its *own Establishment*, and thence the interests of artists? We grant, the promotion of such objects and interests entails with it a public good, but the generosity, after all, is whole sister to that species of charity which begins at home. From the big, bare words, "devoted to the promotion of public objects," readers a degree more simple than ourselves might imagine the Royal Academy had equipped a fleet, or endowed an hospital, as a free gift to the nation. Should they have done some such thing, it

exhibitors may be said to earn it with their works; but had they had to buy their own ground, build their own tenement, and struggle on without the Impersonation of the National Majesty as their patron, like other unfriended societies, peradventure they would have been able to devote fewer pounds after so generous a fashion, and would certainly have been able to vaunt their perfect "independence" with a little more verisimilitude. As it is, we opine, that the Royal Academy are public debtors, to a certain amount, and that the nation *has*, therefore, a certain right of inquiry into their concerns, and of control over them.

Sir Martin (p. 3) turns up a nostril of flaming scorn at "the little *clique* of anti-academic malignants:" but is there not a *pro-academic clique* likewise? and are its members all so milky-natured, and do their proceedings merit less suspicion, because those of a large clique instead of a little one? The public must judge between both. We no more admire a borough-monger's defence of every rottenness in an artificial Old Gattin, that may be called a Royal Academy, than a plebeian cry for its complete disfranchisement, though capable of all needful reform and of purification beyond the soundness of a county. President Shee admits (p. 28, 'Outlines') an "establishment spirit,"—a spirit as far from amiable, or noble, or advantageous, as the "wriggling and tortuous activity" he sneers at:—

"In this kind of corporate creation also, a spirit is too often generated, which is as active as it is injurious in its influence. A spirit which perverts all zeal, and disappoints all patriotism. It may be called the establishment spirit. They who are once possessed by it, mistake their duty, and misapply their devotion; they delight in a sort of apparatus perplexity, and are as busy as bees in the bustle of arrangement; but, unfortunately, their cares are not for the honey, but the hive. They transfer their affections at once, from the interest which they should serve, to the instrument by which that service ought to be performed; and, as long as the house can be kept in repair, disregard the state of the inhabitant. From the prevalence of this spirit it is that we behold in the world so many great bodies without souls, existing in all the mockery of animation—absorbing and exhausting the wholesome nutriment of life and strength in a state of bloated imbecility and pompous insignificance."

To what but this establishment spirit can be referred one of the most injurious privileges which ever disgraced Art in any age or nation—we mean, the licence possessed by Royal Academicians alone to retouch their pictures after suspension? This practice has brought down upon it the annual anathema of the whole kingdom, without the above spirit flinching much more than Atheism would at the chapter of curses: for there is not a passion so insensible to shame as selfishness. In his discussion of this privilege, our author gives another proof with what ease and satisfaction he can commit logical suicide:—"If the Royal Academy did not confer upon its members any advantages which were not possessed by the whole art at large, I do not see what effect it would have as offering a stimulus to ambition, or a reward to ability.—Q. You consider it a proper advantage?—A. I do."—[Evidence, 2017.—20.] Yet the very next moment he declares this proper, stimulative, and not-to-be-dispensed-with advantage, one which he "should have no kind of objection to see abolished!" Here is oscillating testimony, that clicks on both sides, or no pendulum ever did so! Sir Martin resembles one of those consistent legislators, who pronounce foaming harangues upon one side, and give quiet votes upon the other. For ourselves, to leave out of

has been under the rose, for otherwise we are not of memories ungrateful enough to forget the benefaction. Let it be specified.

view the ignoble advantage derivable from such a privilege, we contend, that it has a most fatal effect upon Art: exhibitors paint up their pictures to the utmost pitch of floridity, lest the privileged works hard by should *kill* them; and these are retouched again, lest so many glittering things around should put their splendour out. Hence results that harsh, garish, over-loaded style of colour, perpetually enhanced in successive exhibitions, which gives to our English school its strumpet character, and vitiates the public eye till it disrelishes the pure as insipid, the chaste as frigid, the natural as feeble. But a consequence of this privilege still more baneful is, that it directly opposes improvement in *Design*, the solid foundation of exalted Art, and the very foundation of which our School has not a single corner-stone to stand on. Good drawing and gorgeous colouring, artists well know, are quasi-incompatible,—the one takes a mean to its end the exact reverse taken by the other; wherefore, to lay upon the canvas a whole soil of paint, to spread, as with a spatula, coat after coat of rich, fat, and varied pigments, must either bury all fine draughtsmanship under it, or preclude the attempt at such a merit altogether. And what is the fact? That, from want of this power, most English historical pieces exhibit a rickety population of figures, betraying through every joint, limb, and feature the paralysis of an ignorant designer's hand; whilst our full-length portraits have a construction of form less stable than hinge-skeletons and Florimels made of snow. Yet worse—this is, and our artists do not know it!

Mr. Edwards's pamphlet points out some other reforms as needful; and while he dissents from the charge of corruption and the cry for abolition, professes himself one of those who "accuse the Academy of unprogressiveness and inadequacy to the wants of the time." But we cannot now enter upon these subjects. The author of 'Modern Art' has likewise some reformist projects about the National Gallery, which we feel the less bound to mention, as they have occurred to almost every rational person in the kingdom, save and except the Directors of that Establishment.

A Pilgrimage to Palestine, Egypt, and Syria.
By Marie Joseph de Geramb, Monk of La Trappe. 2 vols. Colburn.

AN Eastern fable relates that the soul of a peacock once migrated into the body of an owl, retaining a full consciousness of its personal identity, and describes the mingled consternation and surprise excited when the bird, in its new form, claimed the acquaintanceship of its former associates. Scarcely less astonishment will be produced by these volumes in the minds of those who remember the first avatar of the Baron Geramb in England, when they compare their recollections of his brilliant and brief career in the circles of fashion, with the account he gives of his present position. He came to our shores when war rendered a foreigner a rarer animal than the chimpanzee or the giraffe; his costume, his formidable moustache, of which, like the beard of Hudibras, it might be said,

This hairy meteor did announce
The fall of sceptres and of crowns:—

above all, his fierce denunciations of the Corsican usurper, raised him to a height of fame, such as no "lion" has since attained. Suddenly, "one fine day," or rather one fine night, he disappeared; years elapsed, during which a process of metempsychosis, not less strange than that of the Indian peacock, appears to have been effected. The formidable Baron revives in the shape of a Trappist; and he who flaunted in regal halls now declares it his duty to emulate the ostentatious asceticism of St. Francis, to seek

his associates in rags, and avoid as a plague the contact of lordly garments.

We never condemn honest enthusiasm, even when we believe it most misplaced and most mistaken;—we censure not those who believe that the rigid observance of the rules of La Trappe will enable them best to discharge the duties suggested by conscience; but we cannot avoid viewing with suspicion all who make a parade of their austerities. There was as much of pride, and as much of vain glory, in the tattered cloak of Diogenes, as in the gorgeous robes of Aristippus. "I can see your vanity through the holes of your coat," said the Epicurean to the Cynic. There is an ostentatious humility in the noble monastic, which seems as much designed to dazzle and astonish as the fantastic costume and the gasconades of former days. Baron Geramb and the Father Marie Joseph are still the same person; and the account of the mental struggle between the two characters is in itself a proof of their identity:—

"The steam-vessel is divided into two parts: the one, covered, is occupied by what are called people of respectability; underneath is an apartment for their use; the other part is open; the room beneath, less commodious and less elegantly fitted up, is scarcely ever occupied by any but persons of the lower class, or by those who wish to travel at a cheap rate. Well! would you believe it! never was I so perplexed as when I was asked in a loud voice, and before all the passengers, what place I would take. A little contest ensued between M. the Baron de Geramb and Father Marie Joseph. The Baron de Geramb strove to prove to Father Marie Joseph that every consideration imperatively required him to take his place in the first-mentioned division. He had a thousand reasons to adduce: in the first place, decency; in the next, the danger of getting a *coup de soleil*, the cure of which would have been very expensive for one who had taken a vow of poverty; and then cleanliness, which is also a virtue, &c. Father Marie Joseph alleged, on his part, that, having taken a vow of humility, he was glad to have this opportunity of expiating certain little reproaches to which he had exposed himself on this head. With the blessing of God, Father Marie Joseph got the better of the Baron."

Turning from the man to his book, we find it one of the most credulous records that ever came from the pen of a pilgrim. Although the changes of realm and chances of time have swept away the traces of ancient Jerusalem, the monks profess to point out with minute accuracy every locality connected with Christ's ministry, and especially with the Passion. They show the spot where Jesus turned to address the women who bewailed his fate—where he met his mother—where Judas betrayed him with a kiss—where he sunk under the weight of the cross: they point out the socket in which the cross was fixed—the stone on which the body was anointed for burial, and all the details of the sepulchre. The Baron not only repeats these legends with implicit faith, but he adds some miracles of recent date, dwelling with particular emphasis on the escape of the Franciscan chapels when the church of the Holy Sepulchre was burned to the ground in 1808, and triumphing in the ruin of the chapels belonging to the schismatic Greeks and Armenians. As a specimen of this credulity, we may quote his account of what has been felicitously named the *Invention of the Cross*, when the foundations of the Church of the Sepulchre were laid by direction of the Empress Helena:

"On digging deeper at several points, they came at length to the Holy Sepulchre, and close to it were discovered three crosses buried in the ground; apart from them were three nails, with which the feet and hands of the Saviour had been pierced, and likewise the inscription as recorded by the evangelists. Heaven soon made known by a miracle which was the instrument of redemption. By the advice of Macarius, the body of a female sick unto death was touched by each of the crosses. The touch of the

first two had no effect; that of the third instantly cured her." To this prodigy of divine mercy was added another still more striking, related by St. Paulinus and Sulpicius Severus: when applied to a corpse, the true cross restored it to life."

Similar legends form the staple of these volumes: there are, however, some incidental notices of manners and customs not devoid of interest, which have the additional merit of relating to those classes of the population rarely described by other travellers. The following account of the system of marriages among the Catholic Arabs is curious:—

"A singular practice prevails here relative to marriages. Parents are accustomed to promise their children, when they are but two years old, one year old, or even younger. A Catholic Arab said to me, a few days since, rubbing his hands for joy: 'I have just promised my daughter; it is an excellent match for her.' 'How old is she?' 'A fortnight.' 'And her intended?' 'Four years.' 'I have doubly to congratulate you; never in my life do I recollect to have heard of a more innocent couple.' The father of the male child buys the girl; he bargains about the price, and pays down part of it immediately, by way of earnest. In our European countries, parents could not settle their daughters respectably in life, unless they were to give them a portion: here, on the contrary, as you see, the father is paid for his daughter, so that the more children of the female sex he has, the richer he is. How often have I not already heard the expression, 'My wife cost me so much....' 'tis a high price.' In conversing with the workmen who made chaplets and other things for me, I have frequently asked this question: 'How much did your wife cost you?' and those to whom I addressed it answered it immediately and with the greatest sincerity. 'I paid eight hundred piastres for mine,' said one of them, one day. 'And what was the price of your mother?' I proceeded. 'Four hundred piastres.' 'That is very low in comparison.' 'But, Father, the piastre was worth more than it is now.'"

Baron Geramb gives a far more favourable character of the Jews at Jerusalem than is usual with travellers in the East:—

"The Jews of Jerusalem are in general well educated and not deficient in attainments: they understand several languages; almost all of them speak Spanish and Italian. The school, in their synagogue, though inferior to that which they have at Tiberias, which is the most celebrated of all, is directed by masters who devote themselves with zeal to the instruction of the youth committed to their care. * I have never seen a Jew asking charity; I have never seen one covered with the rags of wretchedness, which are but too frequently met with among the Arabs and the Christians; and this is owing less to the relief which the poor receive from the rich, or from that which foreign synagogues transmit to their indigent brethren, than to activity and industry. The Jew is a stranger to that slothful fondness for rest, so common among the people of the Levant, whose indolent and useless life is the principal cause of indigence. The Jew employs himself; he spreads out, sometimes upon a tottering stone, wares, of such small value, that you are utterly astonished that he can hope to derive any profit from them; but, should he even sell no more than will enable him to procure a morsel of bread, that appears to him preferable to the shame which he would feel in holding out his hand. There are Jews of all trades, of all professions: my tinman is a Jew. As I have occasion for a good many tin boxes and cases, to hold valuable objects, I see him frequently; and his assiduity, his indefatigable activity, always fill me with fresh surprise. A quality, peculiar here to this class of persons, is a civility, which forms a singular contrast with the rude, uncouth behaviour of the other inhabitants. Have you lost your way? are you seeking a street?—a Jew, be sure, will offer to conduct you; he will even accompany you for a considerable distance; and, too proud to ask for pay, too fond of gain to make an absolute sacrifice of it, when you have reached the place to which you are going, he will look at your hand, he will cast an eye at your pocket—if you choose to take the hint, well and good."

The interest which the Armenian Church has recently awakened in the Christian world, renders any authentic account of their ceremonies desirable. Unfortunately, the Baron regarded them as schismatics, and paid little attention to their usages. One of their religious ceremonies, which he accidentally witnessed, has a greater charm than mere novelty:—

"I was returning, the other day, from Golgotha, when, on approaching the Holy Sepulchre, I saw some Armenian priests engaged in cutting, by the light of the lamps, pieces of white linen cloth into stripes of a certain length. These they laid upon the sacred tomb, pronounced a blessing over them, wrote upon each some words in their own language, and then distributed them among the pilgrims, who received them with great reverence. I could not comprehend either the object or the aim of this ceremony: though it strongly excited my curiosity, I durst not disturb the devotion of the actors in it by soliciting an explanation. But, presently afterwards, perceiving at the door of the church some of those who had participated in the distribution made by the priests, I asked them a few questions, and learned that what I had seen offered and received with such piety, with such religious reverence, was.... a shroud! A shroud! and the poor pilgrims appeared more delighted to carry home with them this garment of death than ever was ambitious man, driven by the desire of wealth across the seas, when, after a long exile, he returns to his country, laden with treasures: this was to be for each of them, when the last hour should arrive, a pledge of peace and blessing."

We have found the Baron rather credulous in his account of the miracles of the Latin Church; but he atones for this by ridiculing the superstitions of the Greeks. Through the interest of the Russian government, the Greeks have now obtained possession of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and play off there the clumsy juggle of the Paschal fire, which is said to descend annually from heaven on Holy Saturday.

"On that day, the governor of Jerusalem, accompanied by his principal officers, attended the service; it is a right which is reserved for him; he may even go to it, when he pleases, with the women of his harem. He came to see the different ceremonies, and, among others, that of the distribution of the fire by the Greeks. It is a remarkable thing that the marvellous operation never commences till he is present and has given the signal for it. As soon as he had spoken, Heaven obeyed him, and it was evident that, before it sent down the paschal fire to the objects of its especial favour, it had condescended to wait till a Turk had given permission for it."

On his road from Palestine to Egypt, the Baron visited Acre, where he heard some extraordinary anecdotes of the despotism of Sir Sidney Smith's friend, Djezzar Pacha. The most singular of these relates to a young merchant, who had dispossessed his father of the upper part of the house, and compelled him to reside on the ground-floor. Djezzar heard of this injustice, and summoned the son before his tribunal:—

"Of what religion art thou?" cried Djezzar, darting at him a look which made him turn pale with fear, and deprived him of the power to reply. 'I ask,' he resumed, raising his voice, 'of what religion thou art.' '—I am a Christian, as your excellency knows.' 'A Christian! Thou liest! Let us see! Make the sign of the Christians.' The young man, trembling, made the sign of the cross. 'That is not it,' said the pacha, clapping his hand upon his dagger: 'pronounce aloud,' continued he, 'pronounce aloud the words which accompany that sign.' 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,' said the terrified Christian. 'Repeat them,' said the pacha, and speak louder; I am old and growing deaf.' The young man lifted his right hand to his forehead, and repeated in as loud a voice as he could: 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.' 'Aha!' cried Djezzar, in a voice that made the divan shake, and thrilled the young man with horror, 'Aha! wretch! the Father is on the forehead, the Son on the breast!.... Knowest thou what that means? The Father is above, and the Son below. Go, scoundrel! go home,

and if in a quarter of an hour it is not so there, thy head shall roll in the dust." I need not say what haste the culprit made to throw himself at the feet of his father, to beg his pardon, and to give up the room which he had dared to withhold from him so unjustly."

After leaving Palestine, the Baron visited Egypt and Sinai, but he has added nothing to our information respecting these countries; and we close his volumes with feelings of disappointment. Enthusiasm and credulity may be pardoned, but to these are added a sour sectarian spirit, a disposition to weigh everything in a monastic balance,—in short, the attribute which Reuchlin and Erasmus described as the pest of their age, belligerent asceticism.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

An Historical Sketch of the Law of Copyright, &c. by J. J. Lowndes, Esq.—*Speeches in favour of an Extension of Copyright*, by T. N. Talfourd, Serjeant-at-Law, with the Petitions in favour of the bill, &c. —If no other benefit had been derived from the discussion of the Copyright Question, the public would be indebted to Mr. Serjeant Talfourd, for showing practically how indifferently any measure, not of immediate interest to some political party, is likely to be treated in Parliament. To a simple Utopian, no subject could have promised more fairly: Honourable Members had not been bored with it,—it was not stale and flat, but as new as Socialism. It was not one-sided, but lustrous with as many facets as a cut diamond, shining equally on Whig and Tory, Independent and Radical. It belonged to no particular school, but generally concerned Oxford and Cambridge, the London University and King's Colleges, Eton, Harrow, Rugby, Christ's, Paul's and Merchant Tailors'. It was of no decided complexion, blue, orange, or green, but of a true neutral tint. And hence alas! its miserable failure! Had authors' heads been stuft with mud instead of brains, the matter might have been made an agricultural question, and the dirty acres would have been as carefully dammed and dyked by law, as the slimy soil in the fens of Lincolnshire. Every grubby particle would then have been as vigilantly protected from removal and appropriation, as the drift of the road is preserved from piracy; and each ear of corn it served to support or manure would have been assigned to its proper owner to the end of time. But for want of this more than dramatic interest, the piece failed. There was no Jack Sheppardism in it—the bill did not draw—there was never a full house, and in spite of the exertions of the member for Reading and writing, the one act was damned by some three hisses, as many groans, and the stumping of that big stick to it, Mr. Warburton. Mr. Wakley, the Coroner, too, helped to burke the subject he had to sit upon; and the finding of the jury—that the authors should be shorn by the publishers for the benefit of the public—no doubt astounded numberless persons who had heretofore held that the many should always be sacrificed to the few.—The Sketch of Mr. Lowndes is historical, and tends to prove that the laws intended to preserve copyright in its integrity have only laid it open to all sorts of Tegg-ry.* To use a marine figure, the legislators of old finding a vessel in danger from *Pirates*, sent on board, for its protection a party of *Wreckers*. The absurdity of such a course is self-evident, and yet we find parties as indifferent on the subject as if authorship had not done as much for the national glory as any *ship* in the British navy! In the mean time, it is somewhat humiliating to observe from Mr. Lowndes's statement, that even the petty continental states have gone ahead of us on this question. In some countries, literary property is treated as real and perpetual—in others the author is allowed a very long lease. Of the motives for these arrangements, and their intrinsic value, there may be various opinions; but England is all the more engaged by her character, to openly and liberally adopt measures for good reasons, that are elsewhere pursued for bad ones, and establish by the independence of her authors the Freedom of her Press.

The Economy of Vegetation, by a Fellow of the

* For the meaning of this new word consult Peter Parley.

Linnæan Society,—is an unskilful attempt to support the doctrine of final causes by the "phenomena of plants." It looks like the note-book of an industrious but ill-informed student, who has just quitted a course of Botanical Lectures, where the object of the teacher has been more to amuse or surprise than to instruct. It is a complaint on the part of a recent historian of the inductive sciences, that in modern times a prejudice has been established against the introduction into physical speculations of any views to which the designation of final causes can be applied; and the complaint is not unjust. But it must not be concealed that the prejudice alluded to has been less excited by modern philosophers, than by those who have determined to find an explanation of every peculiarity of organization in their own crude conceptions, and who, like the author of this book, confound cause and effect till nothing but doubt and scepticism can arise in the mind of the reader. Such persons may have excellent intentions, but we can give them no further credit. Some one tells us that the snowdrop droops its head in order that its seeds may be fertilized, and that without this contrivance the end of its existence cannot be accomplished; but the crocus and the tulip bear their flowers erect, and yet their seeds are fertilized with as much exactness as those of the snowdrop, in which the weakness of the flower stalk seems a sufficient explanation of the position of its flower. In like manner, the author of this book talks of the bladder fruit of the bladder senna being intended to aid the transfer of its seeds through the air, forgetting that it never separates from the branch on which it grows, and that therefore if it flies at all, it must carry the bush along with it; and forgetting also that the pea and the bean, and the many allies of the bladder nut have no such means of transport, although they ought equally to require it. We do not say that botanical phenomena are opposed to the doctrine of final causes; on the contrary, we have no difficulty in declaring our belief that they are to a certain extent among its best and surest supports; but we are obliged to protest against the false reasoning and wrong analogies and misconceptions of the writer of the book before us, being taken to represent the opinions of botanists on the subject.

Repton's Landscape Gardening, edited by J. C. Loudon,—is an octavo volume of 620 pages, in which are included the whole of the costly writings of the author, upon the subject of Landscape Gardening and Landscape Architecture. Repton stood, and still stands, without question, at the head of a profession of great importance to the comfort and beauty of rural residences, and there is scarcely a county in which he has not left some trace of his genius and taste. But the principles upon which the practice of landscape gardening is founded are so little appreciable by the uneducated eye, while its results are in themselves so fleeting and changeable, either from the alterations gradually produced upon the surface of ground and the forms or grouping of trees, by natural causes, or from the capriciousness and love of change inherent in the human mind, that unless Repton had committed them to paper in very considerable detail, posterity could never have derived that advantage from his experience which is now secured. Perhaps the distinguishing feature in the designs of this artist was less his correct appreciation of the beautiful, or his consummate skill in working out his plans, than his great good sense, which always kept him clear of wild, fantastical speculations, and led him to consult what was practicable, quite as much as that which might be desirable. Their dearthness has hitherto kept the writings of Repton unknown to the great mass of readers, and so far deprived the public of the advantages of his professional maxims; we therefore hail with satisfaction the present beautiful edition by Mr. Loudon, himself a distinguished landscape gardener, which, by the substitution of good wood-cuts for costly engravings, has reduced the price within the means of any possessor of a library.

Emendations of the Authorized Version of the Old Testament, by S. Newman.—Mr. Newman is a learned Jew, whose Hebrew Grammar and Lexicon are greatly valued by scholars. The emendations which he proposes are generally obvious, being corrections of errors incidental to every translation. He dwells too slightly on one pregnant source of mistakes, the ignorance of oriental habits and customs, which has led the trans-

lators to apply the technical terms of English rural life to the very different circumstances of pastoral and agricultural systems in Asia. This, however, is not peculiar to our version; the Seventy have given the patriarchal narratives an Alexandrian cast; St. Jerome has invested them with the character of the Middle Ages; and Miles Coverdale seems to have believed that there was a strong similarity between Abraham's family and that of an English grazier.

The Game of Billiards, by Edwin Kentfield.—With all billiard players, Kentfield's name alone will ensure a welcome reception to this work. His object in compiling it has been, he tells us in the preface, to convey a sound systematic knowledge, founded on scientific principles, and illustrated by diagrams; and, so far as our experience of, or skill in the game, enables us to form a judgment, he appears to have succeeded. The diagrams alone would make the work valuable. There are no less than ninety-four plates, each of which contains two or more of these, showing how to execute difficult strokes, which, when the pupil is enabled to perform, he may fairly take rank as a master in the science.

List of New Books.—Life of Sir W. Raleigh, 3rd edit. Edinburgh Cabinet Library, Vol. XI. 6s. 6d. —Simpson's Goldsmith's England, 13th edit. enlarged, 12mo. 3s. 6d. —Harrall's Selections from Bird's Poems, 18mo. 3s. 6d. —Gibson's Petit Fablier, ou Esopie en Miniature, 18mo. 1s. 6d. —McAll's Discourses on Special Occasions, 2 vols. 8vo. 2s. 6d. —Life and Times of the Countess of Huntingdon, new edit. 2 vols. 8vo. 2s. 6d. —Calvin's Commentary on the Psalms, 3 vols. 8vo. 30s. —Memoirs and Letters of Madame Mailbran, 2 vols. crown 8vo. 21s. —Alexander's Life of Wellington, 2 vols. 8vo. 28s. —Les Bouquets des Souverains, crown 8vo. 25s. —Cousin Geoffroy, edited by Theodore Hook, 3 vols. 31s. 6d. —Tredgold's Elementary Principles of Carpentry, by Barlow, 4to. 2s. 6d. —Hf-bd. —Arrowsmith's New General Atlas of the World, folio, 21s. 6d. —The Despatches, &c. of the Marquess Wellesley, Vol. I. new edit. 8vo. 30s. —Milman's History of Christianity, 3 vols. 8vo. 17s. 6d. —Major Sir W. Lloyd and Capt. A. Gerrard's Tour in the Himalaya, 2 vols. 8vo. 21s. —More's (Hannah) Miscellaneous Works, 2 vols. 8vo. 11s. 4s. —Hood's Up the Rhine, 2nd edit. post 8vo. 12s. —Mills' British India, edited by Wilson, 4th edit. Vol. I. 8vo. 14s. —The Ingoldsby Legends, by Thomas Ingoldsby, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. —Tate's Practical Treatise on Naval Book-keeping, royal 8vo. 14s. —Faber's Primitive Doctrine of Regeneration, 8vo. 10s. 6d. —Court and Camp of Buncey, being by the Hon. W. G. Osborne, 1 vol. 8vo. 15s. —De Foe's Works, new edit. Vol. IV. 6s. 6d. —Strickland's Lives of the Queens of England, Vol. I. post 8vo. 8s. 6d. —The Indian Revenue System, by H. Tuckett, 8vo. 7s. 6d. —Ingram's Popish Doctrine of Transubstantiation Refuted, 12mo. 5s. —Doyle's Life of Archbishop Sancroft, 8vo. 9s. —Memoirs of Lieutenant Shipp, by himself, 1 vol. 12mo. 5s. —Browning's History of the Ingenue, 2nd edit. 8vo. 6s. —Merry's Philosophy of a Happy Future, 8vo. 5s. —Cl. —London Saturday Journal, 1839, 1 vol. 10s. 6d. —Kollar's Treatise on Insects, translated by Loudon, 6s. —The Ladies' Knitting, Netting, and Crochet Book, oblong. 5s. 6d. —The Village and the Vicarage, 18mo. 2s. 6d. —Renard, the Fox, square, 2s. 6d. —Tyas's Legal Hand-Book, "Real Property," 18mo. 2s. —Hodson's Catalogue of Books and Engravings Published in 1839, 8vo. 1s. 6d. —Chamberlain's Helps to Knowledge, 6s. —Palmer's —Palmer's —Palmer's History, 3s. 6d. —Ken's Practice of Divine Love, 6s. —New English Grammar, edited by the Rev. B. Turner, 12mo. 2s. 6d. —Town Signs for Little Folks, 6mo. 1s. 6d. —Country Walks for Little Folks, 6mo. 1s. 6d. —Swainson on the Climate of New Zealand, 8vo. 3s. —Mrs. Cuthbert on the Church Catechism, 18mo. 2s. 6d. —Epistles of the Right Rev. Joseph Hall, D.D. edited by the Rev. Archdeacon Hale, 8vo. 4s. 6d. —The Cottage among the Mountains, 6s. 6d. —Edwards's Latin Exercises, 12mo. 4s. —Carpenter's Manual of Prayer, 18mo. 2s. —Goody Pearls, 6mo. 1s. 6d. —Living Water, 6mo. 1s. 6d. —Tomlinson on the English Drama, 6s. 8vo. 4s. —Carriek's Life of Sir W. Wallace, medium 8vo. 3s. —Del Mar's Spanish Grammar, 3rd edit. 12mo. 4s. —Key to the Exercises on Del Mar's Spanish Grammar, 12mo. 1s. —Anthon's Greek Grammar, by Major, 12mo. 4s. —Anthon's Greek Prosody, by Major, 12mo. 2s. 6d. —Holding's Domestic Addresses, royal 32mo. 2s. —Sketches of Young Couples, by the Author of "Sketches of Young Gentlemen," 6s. —Gay's First Geography, with Maps, 18mo. 1s. —Golden Precepts of Our Saviour, 32mo. 4s. 6d. —Memoirs of Neff, Oberlin, and Overburg, royal 8vo. 1s. 6d. —Memoirs of Miss M. Fishwick, 18mo. 2s. 6d. —Young Naturalist's Journey, by Mrs. Loudon, square 16mo. 4s. —Spittire, by Captain Chamier, 2nd edit, with three illustrations. 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. —Lady Jane Grey, an Historical Romance, by Thomas Miller, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. —Montacute, or a new Home, Who'll Follow, 2 vols. post 8vo. 16s. —Croly's Life of Burke, 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s.

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**METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL for JANUARY, kept by the Assistant Secretary, at the Apartments of the Royal Society,
By order of the President and Council.**

1840. JAN.	9 o'clock, A.M.			3 o'clock, P.M.			Dew Point at 9 A.M., deg. Fahr.	Diff. of Wet and Dry Bulb Ther.	External Thermometers.				Rain in inches. Read off at 9 A.M.	Direction of the Wind at 9 A.M.	REMARKS.	
	Barometer uncorrected.		Att. Ther.	Barometer uncorrected.		Att. Ther.			Fahrenheit.		Self-registering					
	Flint Glass.	Crown Glass.		Flint Glass.	Crown Glass.				9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Lowest	Highest				
W 1	29.724	29.718	45.9	29.728	29.724	47.6	44	02.1	49.8	51.8	44.3	50.5		S	(A.M. Overcast—light rain and wind. P.M. Fine—light clouds. Evening, Fine and starlight.	
T 2	29.738	29.732	47.9	29.818	29.810	49.2	43	02.1	47.6	50.2	47.6	48.0		SW	Fine—lt. clouds & wind throughout the day. Ev. Overcast—lt. rain.	
F 3	30.000	29.994	45.9	29.992	29.984	46.7	40	01.7	43.2	47.2	41.8	43.6	.025	W	(A.M. Fine—light clouds and wind. P.M. Cloudy—light wind. Evening, Overcast—very light rain.	
○ S 4	29.956	29.950	45.3	29.888	29.882	44.7	40	01.0	39.7	39.2	40.6	40.6	.072	NE	Overcast—lt. rain & wind throughout the day, as also the evening.	
⊙ 5	29.896	29.890	42.2	29.878	29.874	42.0	37	01.3	36.3	37.4	36.7	36.6	.205	N	Fine—light clouds & wind throughout the day. Ev. Fine & starlight.	
M 6	30.000	29.994	38.6	30.100	30.092	38.6	32	01.8	33.6	36.2	31.5	34.0		NW	(Fine—light clouds and wind, with sharp frost throughout the day. Evening, Cloudy—light snow.	
T 7	30.282	30.274	35.4	30.218	30.212	34.9	28	frozen	29.0	30.8	29.0	32.0		ENE	(Fine and clear—sharp frost throughout the day. Evening, Fine and clear—sharp frost.	
W 8	30.156	30.148	30.6	30.130	30.122	31.2	17	ditto	22.8	30.7	22.3	29.4		SW	Fine—light clouds & wind—sharp frost. Ev. Overcast—sharp frost.	
T 9	30.224	30.216	32.3	30.238	30.232	23.4	28	01.5	33.2	36.2	22.3	32.8		SW	Light fog—sharp frost throughout the day. Ev. Overcast—lt. fog.	
F 10	30.476	30.470	36.3	30.482	30.476	36.9	26	03.2	34.2	33.7	32.6	34.8		E	Fine—light clouds and wind throughout the day. Ev. Fine & clear.	
S 11	30.516	30.510	32.8	30.478	30.470	33.6	27	frozen	27.4	34.7	26.0	37.2		SE	(Fine—light clouds and wind throughout the day. Evening, Fine and clear—sharp frost.	
⊙ 12	30.286	30.280	32.5	30.254	30.248	34.0	27	ditto	31.5	38.0	27.3	35.3		SE	Fine—lt. clouds and wind throughout the day. Ev. Fine and clear.	
M 13	30.144	30.138	33.9	30.028	30.022	35.3	28	02.1	34.9	40.7	31.4	39.8		SE	Fine & cloudless—light wind throughout the day. Ev. Fine & clear.	
T 14	29.924	29.916	36.8	29.952	29.944	38.4	33	01.1	40.9	43.2	34.8	41.5		S	Overcast—light wind throughout the day. Evening, Very light rain.	
W 15	30.142	30.134	41.0	30.054	30.048	42.3	39	01.0	43.2	43.8	40.2	44.7		SSW	Overcast—brisk wind throughout the day. Ev. Light rain—high wind.	
T 16	29.718	29.712	43.2	29.738	29.730	44.3	39	01.4	40.7	45.8	40.8	46.8	.044	SW	Fine—very lt. clouds & wind throughout the day. Ev. Lightly overcast.	
F 17	29.490	29.484	43.3	29.574	29.568	43.9	40	01.2	41.5	42.8	40.8	46.6	.127	S	Overcast—lt. rain—fog & wind throughout the day. Ev. Fine & clear.	
S 18	29.972	29.964	40.9	29.764	29.758	41.7	36	01.3	36.3	44.8	34.2	43.8	.033	S	(A.M. Fine—light clouds and wind. P.M. Overcast—light rain and wind. Evening, Overcast—high wind.	
⊙ 19	29.436	29.430	45.0	29.366	29.362	47.5	44	01.4	49.4	51.4	35.6	50.7	.122	S	(A.M. Overcast—light rain—high wind, as also throughout the night. P.M. Heavy showers—high wind. Ev. Cloudy—high wind.	
M 20	29.618	29.612	44.8	29.712	29.704	46.4	41	01.3	42.6	45.6	41.4	54.2	.282	S	Overcast—lt. rain—h. wind throughout the day. Ev. Lt. rain—h. wind.	
T 21	29.312	29.308	48.2	29.346	29.340	49.7	45	02.9	51.3	50.2	41.4	53.7	.361	S	(A.M. Overcast—light rain—h. wind, also during the evening. P.M. Fine—lt. clouds—high wind, also throughout the night. P.M. Fine	
W 22	29.684	29.678	46.7	29.662	29.656	47.9	43	02.8	48.3	49.9	45.0	53.2	.133	S	(A.M. Overcast—high wind, as also throughout the night. P.M. Fine	
T 23	29.808	29.802	45.2	29.684	29.678	47.4	41	02.5	47.7	52.9	41.2	51.4	.022	S var.	(A.M. Overcast—light rain—high wind. P.M. Dark heavy clouds—high wind. Evening, Very light rain—high wind.	
F 24	29.346	29.340	50.8	28.966	28.960	51.4	47	02.3	52.0	52.4	47.4	53.5		S var.	Overcast—lt. rain—high wind throughout the day, as also the evening.	
S 25	29.316	29.310	46.7	29.384	29.380	46.9	42	03.2	43.0	43.5	39.6	53.3	.394	S	Fine—lt. clouds & wind throughout the day. Ev. Cloudy—high wind.	
⊙ 26	28.938	28.934	47.3	28.866	28.862	48.4	45	02.0	50.5	47.3	40.6	52.7		S var.	(A.M. Overcast—light rain—very high wind, as also throughout the night. P.M. Heavy clouds. Evening, Heavy rain. (light.	
M 27	29.444	29.436	44.3	29.538	29.530	45.3	38	02.6	37.8	43.7	37.0	38.5	.481	SW	Fine—nearly cloudless—lt. wind throughout the day. Ev. Fine & star.	
T 28	29.422	29.414	42.4	29.214	29.208	45.8	40	02.0	42.8	50.7	37.0	43.4	.016	S	(A.M. Overcast—light rain—high wind. P.M. Fine—light showers—high wind. Evening, Overcast.	
W 29	29.500	29.446	45.0	29.740	29.734	45.8	41	02.6	44.8	45.7	42.6	45.5	.272	W	(A.M. Fine—light clouds and wind. P.M. Cloudy—light wind. Evening, Fine and starlight.	
T 30	29.938	29.932	42.0	29.872	29.866	42.3	36	01.1	34.4	41.8	34.6	35.0		SSW	(A.M. Light fog & wind. P.M. Fine—lt. clouds. Ev. Overcast—lt. rain.	
F 31	29.574	29.568	44.0	29.532	29.528	45.9	40	02.0	43.4	46.8	34.8	44.3	.044	S	(A.M. Overcast—light wind. P.M. Fine—light clouds and wind. Evening, Overcast—light rain.	
MEAN.	29.806	29.798	41.8	29.781	29.774	42.6	37.0	01.9	40.4	43.5	36.9	43.5	2.633		Sum.	Mean Barometer corrected { 9 A.M. 3 P.M. F. 29.774 .. 29.747 C. 29.766 .. 29.739

Note.—The daily observations are recorded just as they are read off from the scale, without the application of any correction whatever.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ANOTHER new comet has been discovered, in the constellation *Draco*, on the 25th ult. Its position, when first seen at Berlin, at 11^h 45^m 54^s, mean time at that place, was A.R.=304° 24' 14", and Decl.=+63° 7' 29"; with a daily motion in A.R. of +3° 54', but none in Decl.

It was our painful duty, on the opening of the new year, to announce the death of William Hilton, one of the very few British painters who have devoted themselves to historical art. We are happy to learn from the following circular, that those best able to appreciate the virtues of the man, and the genius of the artist, are about to bear testimony to both:—

29, Kensington-square, February 3, 1840.
Sir,—It being the anxious wish of the Students of the Royal Academy who have benefited by the instructions of the late W. Hilton, Esq. R.A. Keeper, and of many other Artists, to mark their respect for his talents, and the loss the higher branches of art have sustained by his death, it is suggested that they should unite for the purpose of purchasing one of his pictures, to be presented to the National Gallery, where it may remain as a memorial of his excellence as a painter, and their high estimation of him as a gentleman.

Upwards of fifty names having been already received, a Meeting for forming a Committee, and for other purposes connected with this object, will be held at Element's British Coffee House, Cockspur-street, on Saturday evening next, at half-past Seven, when your attendance, with any friends interested, is earnestly requested.

C. W. COPE.

RICHARD REDGRAVE, } Secs. pro. tem.

We learn by a private letter from Stuttgart, that a Society has just been established in that city, under the patronage of the King of Wurtemberg, called *Societas Bibliophorum*, modelled in part on the Camden and other like societies in this country, for the purpose of reprinting rare works, and publishing such curious and interesting manuscripts, as serve to elucidate the History and Antiquities of the Teutonic races, or those in which the Teutonic blood is mingled with the Roman. The annual subscription is 11 Rhenish florins, 64 Prussian dollars, or 14, English, for which the subscriber will receive a

copy of every work printed by the Society. Baron Cotta, Von Lehr, Menzel (editor of the 'Literaturblatt'), Von Koelle, Von Scheuren, Staelin, Von Waechten (Chanc. of the University), are among the founders of the Society, and have offered their gratuitous services as editors.

Death has chosen an illustrious victim from amid the learned and scientific circles of Germany, in the person of the distinguished philosopher and professor Blumenbach, who died at Göttingen, on the 22nd of last month, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years.—We may mention, too, the death, at his ancient Chateau of Bruneau (so called after the queen of that name), near Etampes, of the Vicomte de Viart, the author of a work on the theory of art, of considerable reputation.

The subject of literary copyright in France, as in England, is once more about to be brought before the Chambers; and the booksellers and journals are busying themselves with suggestions for protection against piracies at home and abroad. Whatever measures a nation may find effectual for repression within its own limits, it is clear, that the latter object is only to be attained by negotiation, and international arrangements. The booksellers of Paris have done themselves great honour, by urging upon the legislature that, without awaiting the tardy organization of a system of reciprocity, France shall at once take the initiative, by unconditionally proscribing within her own territories all piracies of foreign books, and placing the foreign author in all respects on the same ground of rights and privileges as the Frenchman.—While on this subject, we may mention a novel application of the principle of literary property, which has been exciting a lively interest among authors and dramatists in France, and might lead to something like a dramatic revolution here, if it should be extended to this country—in conjunction with a broad international copyright law. M. Paul de Musset has applied to the courts against MM. Marc-Michelle and others, the authors of a piece some

time since produced at the Théâtre du Palais-Royal, under the title of 'M. de Coislin, ou l'Homme infiniement poli', for having appropriated the subject, and transferred the scenes of a novel written by him into their drama. He claims, in consequence, to be recognized as *collaborateur*, and co-proprietor of the vaudeville in question, in such proportion as the Court might decree, and demanded 2,000 francs as damages for the past performances. The Tribunal de Première Instance gave him 300, thereby affirming his right, and the Cour Royale, on appeal, has confirmed the decision. What will the playwrights of the English stage do, when the circulating libraries of England and France shall all be shut against them, under the seal of copyright?

The appointment of M. Guizot as Ambassador to the British Court, is a subject on which a literary paper like this may offer a word of notice and congratulation, without stepping out of its own functions. Besides being a scholar and an author of the first distinction, M. Guizot's studies and his pen have been especially devoted to the history and literature of England; and the prominent place which he occupies in French letters, will confer on him in our literary circles a character almost as conspicuously representative as that which he brings into our political. No man could come amongst us better fitted to co-operate, on this side the Channel, with any views which M. Villemain may have for effecting a law of international copyright, or removing all obstructions to the free and untrammelled circulation of knowledge in all its forms between the two countries.

The election of a member to fill the late M. Michaud's seat in the French Academy, which had been adjourned till the 21st of March, has been now fixed for the 20th of the present month; and on the same day the successor to the late Archbishop of Paris will be nominated.—A new candidate for the late M. de Quélen's chair has announced himself, in the person of M. Bignan, the author of a translation of the *Iliad*, a poem entitled 'Napoléon en Russie,'

and other poetical works. It is to be presumed, however, that M. Bignan's appearance in this character is rather for the purpose of presenting his claims, with a view to future contingencies, than in any hope of displacing either M. Berryer or M. Victor Hugo, on the present occasion.

Speaking of the Academy, we may mention, that an historical eulogium was pronounced by M. Dupin, at one of its recent sittings, on the Duc de Nivernois—forty years after that accustomed honour was due, according to the practice of the Academy. The revolution, it appears, had robbed several distinguished members of this, their posthumous prerogative; and these peaceful times having given the Academy time to "bury its dead." M. Dupin was appointed to perform this ceremony over the Duc de Nivernois and the illustrious Malesherbes. The Duc de Nivernois was a courtier, soldier, diplomatist, poet, and *bel esprit*, and held to the Academy by all these titles, in days when any of the qualities in question were recognized passports into that body. The Duke was one, however, whose literary pretensions had need of all these aids to seat him in the chair which Massillon had filled before him; and his descendants have little reason to complain of the Academical oblivion which he has so long shared with such men as Malesherbes.

A Correspondent at Baden Baden writes thus:—"We have had almost an Italian winter: the frost having been confined to about ten days; and it is now as mild as in April. There are but few strangers resident here, and those scarcely known to one another, for there are no re-unions, or scarcely any. One of the prominent personages at this place is Benazet, the proprietor of the rooms and *impresario* of the gambling house. The closing of those of Paris and the transfer of the establishment to this place, has, for two years, supplied materials for much gossip, and no little animadversion on the government. It is natural, therefore, that this *great man* should excite some curiosity, and I was anxious to see him. He is a man of about fifty, *bien conservé*, with the keenest eye I ever came within range of. He has exchanged his golden palace for a villa near the town, where he is *en pension* with a German family, and maintains no establishment of his own, either of horse, carriage, or servants; in short, he leads a true German life. He is not, however, wanting in hospitality, and he assembles around him all the musical talent that the place affords. Music indeed is his passion: and Ole Bull, Thalberg, De Beriot, and Sabina Heinefetter might well call him Papa Benazet, for he was a most munificent father to them; nor, if the stories are to be believed, is he deficient in liberality, even to his victims.—Your Berlin correspondent addressed lately (No. 623) to the discovery of Herr Liepmann, by which an unlimited number of fac-similes of ancient pictures can be produced at a very trifling price. I have since heard of a M. Krewel, a painter at Bonn, who is said to have been engaged for many years in making experiments on Lithochromy, or stone painting, by means of which copies of original oil paintings have been produced by the customary mode of impression. This discovery is described as particularly calculated for copying pictures of the old German school, and M. Krewel has found it to succeed remarkably in portraits. Several of these lithochromic pictures have already appeared.—I have been particularly struck with one—the St. John, known already by Müller's copperplate engraving. The impression is taken on linen, and has absolutely the appearance of a painting. The drapery, both in colour and folds, leaves nothing to be desired."

A discovery is said to have been recently made in Russia, of a method whereby the softest stones may be hardened, and have communicated to them the beauty, solidity, and even colours, of the rarest marbles.—We may mention, too, as a discovery of no intrinsic value, yet having that sort of interest which genius confers upon the commonest things,—that a register, containing thirty-three pages of the handwriting of Pierre Corneille, has been found amongst the archives of the city of Rouen. It is a mere account kept by him of his receipts and expenditure, in his capacity of treasurer, to the parish of Saint-Sauveur, and must have been written in the same year in which he composed his tragedy of 'Nicomède.'

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.

The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from 10 in the Morning until 5 in the Evening.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.

WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

THE CORREGGIO MAGDALENE.—THE GRAND GALLERY PICTURE by REMBRANDT, representing Abraham about to offer up his son Isaac.—A new Painting in the School of Raffaele—and a few other Pictures of a high class, are NOW ON VIEW at the GALLERY, No. 48, PALL MALL, opposite the Oxford and Cambridge University Club-house.—Admission, 1s.—Open from 10 to 5 o'clock.

SPLENDID EXHIBITION.—ROYAL GALLERY, ADELPHI-STREET, LOWTHER ARCADE, WEST STRAND.—Polarization of Light, by Mr. Goddard's Polariscopes.—Messrs. Whitworth's Patent Foot-Lathe.—Electrical Eel, alive, the only one in Europe.—Electricity and Magnetism.—Electro-Magnetic Locomotive Engine at work.—Steam-Gun.—Oxy-hydrogen Microscope.—Mr. Robson's Patent Signal Lights shown daily, and innumerable other attractive Novelties.—Open daily at 10, A.M. Admittance, 1s.

MATCHLESS WORK OF ART in a series of 43 beautiful Models of Ships and Boats, &c. of all rates, so elaborately finished that the microscope is required to examine the perfection of the workmanship.—ELECTROTYPE, or the process of making Coins and Medals, daily at a quarter before three, at the POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The Exhibition consists of Electrical and Magnetic Experiments, Microscope, Pneumatic Telegraph, Operatives in the Hall of Manufactures, Chemical or Philosophical Lecture, Electrotypes, Diver and Diving Bell, the Brickmaking Machine invented by the Marquis of Trevelick, fine specimens of the Daguerotype are exhibited.—Open at half-past ten, close at half-past four.

MR. ZILIANI will deliver a LECTURE on the ITALIAN LITERATURE OF THE PRESENT CENTURY, at the POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, TUESDAY EVENING, Feb. 11, to commence at Eight o'clock. The Lecture will be interspersed with the performance of Vocal and Instrumental Music, by Miss L. Baisano, Miss Lanza, Mr. Handel Gear, and an Amateur.—Full particulars will be given in the Programme.—Tickets, 2s. 6d., to be had of Mr. Brooks, Fancy Stationer, 319, Regent-street, near the Polytechnic Institution.

MR. ZILIANI attends schools, and gives Lessons in the Italian Language, at his own Residence, No. 39, Great Titchfield-street, and abroad, on moderate terms.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

ROYAL SOCIETY.

Jan. 16.—J. W. Lubbock, Esq. V.P. and Treasurer, in the chair.—A paper was read entitled, 'On Nobili's Plate of Colours,' in a letter from J. P. Gas-siott, Esq., to J. W. Lubbock, Esq., V.P. and Treasurer. The effect produced by the late Sig. Nobili, of inducing colours on a steel plate, excited the curiosity of the author, and led him to the invention of the following method of producing similar effects.—Two of Professor Daniell's large constant cells were excited with the usual solutions of sulphate of copper and sulphuric acid. A highly polished steel plate was placed in a porcelain soap-plate, and a filtered solution of acetate of lead poured upon it. A piece of card board, out of which the required figures had been previously cut with a sharp knife, was then placed upon the steel plate. Over the card, and resting on it, there was fixed a ring of wood, a quarter of an inch thick, and the inner circumference of which was of the same size as the figure. A convex copper plate was made, so that its outer edge might rest on the inner part of the wooden ring; and its centre placed near, but not in actual contact with, the card board. Connexion was then made by the positive electrode of the battery with the steel plate: the negative being placed in the centre of the copper convex plate. The figure was generally obtained in from 15 to 35 seconds. If a concave, instead of a convex plate be used, the same colours are obtained as in the former experiment, but in an inverse order.

Geographical Position of the Principal Points of the Triangulation of the Californias, and of the Mexican Coasts of the Pacific, with the Heights of the Principal Points of that Part of the Cordilleras, by the Comte V. Piccolomini; in a letter addressed to Sir John F. W. Herschel, Bart. V.P.

'A Report on the Co-operation of the Russian and German Observers, in a System of Simultaneous Magnetical Observations,' by the Rev. H. Lloyd; in a letter addressed to Sir J. F. W. Herschel, Bart. V.P.

'On Magnetical Observations in Germany, Norway, and Russia,' by Major Sabine, V.P., in a letter to Baron Von Humboldt, dated Oct. 24th, 1839.

These letters relate to communications which Prof. Lloyd and Major Sabine have had, conformably to a resolution of the Council of the Royal Society, with the scientific authorities at Göttingen, Berlin, and St. Petersburg, respecting the organization of a simultaneous system of magnetical observations. It appears from these letters, that the system proposed by the Royal Society is viewed with general interest and approbation: and nineteen stations are enumerated at which there is reason to expect that magnetical observatories, acting in concert, on that system, will be established.

Jan. 23.—Sir John Barrow, Bart. V.P., in the chair.—The following papers were read:—

1. 'On the Structure of Normal and Adventitious Bone,' by Alfred Smee, Esq.—On examining, by means of a microscope, very thin sections of bone, prepared in a peculiar manner, the author observed a number of irregularly shaped oblong corpuscles, arranged in circular layers round the canals of Havers, and also rows of similar bodies distributed around both the external and the internal margins of the bone. Each corpuscle is connected by numerous filaments, passing in all directions, with the Haversian canals and the margins of the bone, and also with the adjacent corpuscles. He finds that the canals of Havers are vascular tubes, containing blood. The corpuscles themselves are hollow, and their cavities occasionally communicate with those of the canals; their length is equal to about two or three diameters of the globules of the blood. They exist in cartilaginous as well as osseous structures; and are found in every instance of adventitious bone, such as callus after fracture, morbid osseous growths, either from bone or from other tissues; and the author has also ascertained their presence in the bony and cartilaginous structures of inferior animals, such as birds and fishes. Measurements relating to these corpuscles, by Mr. Bowerbank, are subjoined; from which it appears that their diameters vary from about the 10,000th to the 4,000th, and their lengths from the 2,300th to the 1,400th part of an inch.

2. 'An Attempt to establish a new and general Notation, applicable to the Doctrine of Life Contingencies,' by Peter Hardy, Esq.—After premising a short account of the labours of preceding writers with reference to a system of notation in the mathematical consideration of life contingencies, the author enters at length into an exposition of the system of symbols which he has himself devised, together with the applications which they admit of in a variety of cases.

The Rev. John Pye Smith, D.D., was elected a Fellow of the Society.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Jan. 27.—G. B. Greenough, Esq. President, in the chair. The following paper was read:—

'Report of the third expedition into the interior of Guayana, comprising the journey from Fort San Joaquim, on the Rio Branco, to Esmeralda, on the Orinoco, in the years 1838-9, by Mr. Schomburgk.' Starting from George Town, Demerara, in September 1837, Mr. Schomburgk explored the River Essequibo, to one of its sources in 0° 41' N. lat., and crossed the Equator into the parallel of 0° 15' S.; returning thence to Pirara, he crossed the Brazilian frontier, and descended the Rio Branco to examine the range of the Carumá mountains on its eastern bank; on coming back from which he passed the rainy season of 1838 at Fort San Joaquim, where he experienced every assistance from the Commandant, Don Pedro Ayres. "Quitting this fort 20th of September 1838," says Mr. Schomburgk, "we ascended the rivers Takutu, and Mahu, in a north-easterly direction, about eighty miles to Pirara, a Macusi village on the southern shore of the Lake Amucu, whence, after a stay of a few days, we set out on the 8th of October on our journey to the far-famed mountain of Roraima, the wonder of the country. Traversing the savannah to the northward, we crossed the Mahu and entered a mountainous country, through which we travelled for about 100 miles in a W.N.W. direction, crossing numerous streams, and the large river Cotinga, in 4° 11' N. lat., where it was still ninety yards wide, with a depth of about seven feet, and flowing to the S.S.E. Nearly twenty miles more to the westward, I measured the highest point of the Mairari mountains, which rose 2,820 feet above the savannah, or about 3,400 feet above the level of the sea. Our course now turned almost north, and travelling ninety miles in this direction, and gradually ascending through a very rocky and difficult country, inhabited by the Arcuna Indians, we reached the foot of the range of sandstone mountains, of which Roraima is the highest, on the 27th of October, and took up our quarters at the Indian settlement of Arawayam. This remarkable mountain group extends twenty-five miles in a N.W. and S.E. direction, and rises to the height of 5,000 feet above the table land, from which I measured it, or 7,500 feet above the sea—the upper 1,500 feet presenting a mural precipice more striking than I have ever seen elsewhere: down the face of these mountains rush numerous cascades,

which eventually form tributaries to the three great rivers of the northern half of South America, namely, the Amazons, the Orinoco, and the Essequibo. Owing to its great height, the mountains were usually covered with clouds, but for an hour before and after sunrise, on the 3rd of November, I had a glorious view of this magnificent and picturesque group, which far surpasses any other to be met with in the region of Guayana. Near the foot of these mountains I found among other beautiful plants an *Utricularia*, a *Sarracenia*, a *Cypripedium*, and a *Cleistes*, with a deep scarlet flower and purple stem. *Roraima* lies in $5^{\circ} 10' N.$ lat., $60^{\circ} 48' E.$ long., a geographical position of much importance towards clearly understanding the hydrography of this portion of South America. Retracing our steps to the southward, we continued in the same direction twenty miles farther, when we issued from the mountain chain and, crossing the *Xuruma*, continued over the savannah as far as the *Maruwa*, flowing to the S.E., which we also crossed, and travelled more to the S.W. for about sixty miles. At twelve miles from the spot where we crossed the *Maruwa*, on the banks of the river, are some remarkable boulders of granite, piled up in a heap to the height of two hundred feet, on which are hieroglyphic figures similar to those that I had already found, both on the *Essequibo* and the *Corentin*, and which may be traced in an east and west direction for a distance of 600 miles, in this portion of South America. On the 4th of December, we reached the *River Parima*, flowing from the westward, in $61^{\circ} 45' W.$ long., and embarking the whole party in two corials, we commenced the toilsome ascent of the stream against a series of rapids, making a progress of only a few miles a day. The river is here more than 300 yards wide. About ten miles to the northward of our point of embarkation, a group of picturesque mountains rise 3,000 feet above the savannah. Thirty miles beyond we reached *Purumami*, or the great cataract of the *Parima*, which here narrowed to fifty yards, precipitates itself over a ledge of rocks forty-five feet high, into a basin only ten yards wide; whence, at the time we visited it, the stream again escaped over a wall of rock twenty-five feet high, thus making a cataract of seventy feet. This, as may be imagined, was an insurmountable barrier to boat navigation, and we were obliged to unload our corials, and transport them and our baggage over hills 350 feet high, and launch the boats again on the stream, which as we continued to ascend for a distance of many miles was impeded by rapids. Sixty miles farther, in a westerly direction, our course turned to the N.W. and entered a more mountainous tract. Here, in $63^{\circ} 20' W.$ long., all existing maps place the source of the *Parima*, which we found to be a fine stream still 290 yards wide; shortly after we quitted it, when it takes a S.W. turn, and ascending the *Arikata* for about twenty miles, we abandoned our corials to cross some mountains which separate this stream from the *Merewari*, on which we embarked on the 1st of January 1839, and continued our journey to the northward. Our new year's fare consisted of the cabbage palm and water—our bread was all expended, and little or no game was to be procured: to add to our ills, I was seized with a bilious fever, which confined me for several days. As we descended the river, we met with the *Guinaw* tribe of Indians, who speak a different language from any others we had hitherto seen. January 15. — Quitting the *Merewari* for a western tributary, we ascended the latter to its source in the *Sarisharima* Mountains, a well wooded range of sandstone, extending east and west, in the parallel of $4^{\circ} 30' N.$, and rising nearly 4,000 feet above the plain. From this point we turned directly to the S.S.W., and again crossing the *Merewari*, (which here describes almost a circle of fifty miles diameter,) continued over a mountainous country inhabited by *Mayong Kong* and *Macu* Indians. The fatiguing nature of this tract I can hardly describe; no sooner had we ascended one mountain than another rose to view, and carrying heavy loads, and short of provisions, for a distance of upwards of 100 miles, some idea may be formed of it. January 31.—We this day entered the basin of the *Orinoco*, all the streams we cross flow southward towards that river; the parallel of $3^{\circ} 30' N.$ is in this part the line of separation of waters. I had now every hope of realizing one of my great objects in this journey, namely, to reach the sources of the *Orinoco*; but we

found, on arriving at an Indian settlement on the following day, that the *Kirishana*, which inhabited that part of the country, were at war with the *Mayong Kong*, and it was in vain that I offered every bribe I could think of to induce them to accompany me: they would listen to nothing, and I was reluctantly obliged to turn my steps to the northward to continue the journey to *Esmeralda*. Yet I have been enabled so far, to ascertain the position of the sources without any material error, as all the Indians agreed in stating them to be at the foot of some mountains which they particularly pointed out to me, distant only fifteen miles. It is remarkable, that the *Kirishanas* would appear to be the same tribe, whose hostility prevented *Baron Humboldt* from attaining the sources of this river in 1800. Retracing our steps to the northward, as far as the parallel of $4^{\circ} N.$, we turned direct to the west, and crossing numerous streams and by a mountainous country, reached the banks of the *Paramu*, a northern tributary of the *Orinoco*. In the course of these last fifty miles we crossed the elevated table mountain of *Warima*, of syenite veined with quartz, which rises 3,000 feet above the valley, and abounds in beautiful plants: *Orchideæ*, a *Tillandsia*, a splendid *Utricularia*, and thickets of the *Manicopa* Palm. On descending from this plateau, we heard at a short distance from our path the twittering noise peculiar to the splendid bird known by the name of the *Rock Manakin*, or *Cock of the Rock*, (*Rupicola elegans*), and on approaching cautiously we saw assembled on a bare patch of ground, about twelve of these birds, strutting about and displaying their brilliant orange coloured plumage, in the light of the morning sun. Descending the *Paramu*, which we found full of rapids, and obliged us continually to unload our corials, we at length, on the 21st of February, entered the long-looked-for *Orinoco*, and glided down its stream, here more than 500 yards in width; on the following morning, we started at daylight, all expectation to reach *Esmeralda*—light fleecy clouds hung over the mountain of *Duida*, but they vanished as the sun rose, and for the first time we had a full view of its magnificent rocky cliffs, brought out in bright relief from the dark masses of shadow behind them. As we approached, a fine savannah extending to the foot of the mountains, a small village, and a few canoes at the landing-place, assured me that this was *Esmeralda*. With what feelings I hastened ashore I need not describe: my chief object was accomplished, and our observations, begun on the shores of the *Atlantic*, at *Demerara*, were connected with those of *Humboldt*, at *Esmeralda*. The *Alcaide* came forward to receive us with every attention and offers of assistance, which our emaciated forms and tattered dress expressed more strongly than words, how much we stood in need of it. Nine and thirty years had now elapsed, since *Alexander von Humboldt* visited *Esmeralda* from the west, and found in the most solitary and remote Christian settlement on the *Upper Orinoco*, a population of eighty persons; this number had now dwindled to a single family, a patriarch with his descendants, and many of the houses were far advanced in decay—yet nature remained the same, *Duida* still raises its lofty summit to the clouds, and flat savannahs interspersed with tufts of trees, and the majestic *Mauritia* Palm, stretch from the banks of the *Orinoco* to the foot of the mountains, and give to the landscape that peculiar beauty which so delighted *Humboldt*, when first he viewed *Esmeralda*. A ridge of heaped up boulders of granite, presenting the most singular forms, occupies the foreground of the picture: some pious hand has planted a cross on its highest point; its airy form stands out in bold relief from the blue sky as a background, and heightens the picturesque appearance of the surrounding scenery. It also reminds us, that though nature and man appear in a savage state, there are still some in this wilderness who adore the Deity, and acknowledge a crucified Saviour. The highest point of the *Cerro Duida* was found to be 7,155 feet above the savannah, or 8,286 feet above the level of the sea, which agrees so nearly with the measurements of *Baron Humboldt*, as to make it appear accidental. The lower part of the mountain, to the height of 3,000 feet, is of granite, but the whole of the upper part is of quartz and sandstone. The north point is distant about ten miles from the village, farther to the northward, and in the distance are the

mountains of *Wataba Siru*, *Ekui*, and *Marawacca*, the latter being the highest among them, and probably reaching an elevation of 10,000 feet above the level of the sea."

Mr. Schomburgk's paper was illustrated by a large map, on the scale of four miles to an inch, showing his route throughout the whole of his journey, a circuit, including his return, of upwards of 2,000 miles; by various sketches of scenery, and a beautiful painting, the size of life, of his chief botanical discovery, the *Victoria Regia*; a large collection of geological specimens, of the *Wourali* poison, the blow-pipe, and various native implements. Three Indians also were present, a *Macusi*, a *Warrau*, and a *Paravilhana*, faithful and intelligent guides, who had accompanied Mr. Schomburgk throughout his wanderings in South America.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

SAT.	Westminster Medical Society	Eight, p.m.
	Society of Arts (<i>Illustrations</i>)	Eight.
TUES.	Architectural Society	Eight.
	Zoological Society (<i>Sci. Bus.</i>)	p. Eight.
	Institute of Civil Engineers	Eight.
	Medico-Botanical Society	Eight.
WED.	Society of Arts	p. Seven.
	Literary Fund	Three.
	Royal Society	p. Eight.
THUR.	Royal Society of Literature	Four.
	Society of Antiquaries	Three.
FRI.	Astronomical Society (<i>Annual</i>)	Three.
	Royal Institution	p. Eight.

FINE ARTS

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THE readers of the *Athenæum* are aware that we bear with a far lighter hand upon Art, when offering an account of the productions of the hour, than when discussing those ancient and immutable truths and principles, which are so gloriously manifest in the works of the great masters. Concede, however, as largely as we will, to the wants and weaknesses, which, as regards painting in England, so strikingly mark the epoch, we must pronounce the present exhibition to be equally barren in promise and poor in performance. In the catalogue, the Directors express their regret, that "from want of room they have been under the necessity of returning a considerable number of pictures." Perhaps the meritorious and original works were among those returned: but this it is hard to believe, seeing that all the gems, and many of the treasures of a second water, have been heretofore exhibited at the Royal Academy. Among these are Mr. Eastlake's *Christ blessing the Children*—Mr. Maclise's *Robin Hood*—Mr. Hart's *Lady Jane Grey at the place of her execution*—and some twenty more of works, smaller in scale, and of humbler pretension.

The *Farewell* of Mr. Maclise (90) is a new picture: and though a small one, almost good enough to atone for such large, but not "lasting shames," to English art as the scenes from *Shakspeare*, Nos. 201 and 436, and Mr. Aglio's *Intronization of Queen Victoria* (420). The *farewell*, which Mr. Maclise has painted, contains merely two half-length figures—a knight, no Eglington knight, however, obliged (the 'Loiterings' of Mr. N. P. Willis are our authority) when armed, to mount his *Rozinante by aid of a chair!*—but stalwart and stern;—fully equal to the weight of his armour. And yet tenderness, that indispensable appanage to the chivalric character, softens every feature, as he draws gently to his breast the lady, who clings there so grief-stricken, that she cannot nerve herself even to turn her face towards him while he soothes her. Mr. Maclise has rarely, if ever, put forth his strength so fully, without some touch of exaggeration. Moreover, though the flesh still wants something of the transparency and richness and health, which distinguish the living being from its alabaster presentment, the picture is beautifully painted, and the apposition and contrast of colour more effectively ordered, than in any work we can remember from the same hand. It would seem as if the heads of men in armour were likely to take the place of the bearded Jews or turbaned Moslems, in which all the modern ideal of masculine countenance and character has been of late somewhat monotonously expressed. Mr. Leigh's *Free Companion* (134) is a fine, forcible head, bearing a right impress of the soldier of fortune. His reckless personal neglect is implied, in the stringy locks of rough hair, which escape over his weather-beaten brow: and the superstition, ever nourished as a counterbalance to ferocity, by the

crucifix lying in meek contrast upon his brawny chest. There is a touch of the guard-room and the hold, in this portrait, on the strength of which, we would encourage Mr. Leigh to try his hand on some historical passage,—say from our own Civil Wars.

Mr. Inskipp exhibits three pictures—a *Neapolitan Fruit-Girl* (51), a *Wayfarer* (60), and a gipsy group, a *Flattering Tale* (222). Any of these offers a fair specimen of the artist's characteristics,—of the artless and easy grace of his drawing, and of the apparently unstudied, but in reality nicely-calculated, tricks of colour (*vide* the morsel of blue ribbon round the *wayfarer's* throat), by which the eye is so legitimately satisfied. All of them, however, display those peculiarities of outline and handling, which, pushed a little farther, might become coarseness and flatness of contour, and slovenly viciousness of execution. Mr. Inskipp is too worthy, to be allowed without remonstrance thus to sink into self-iteration. With these pictures, as partaking in some measure of their tone of colour, may be mentioned Mr. Brocky's *Effect seen in the Highlands* (40)—a pair of shepherd children crouching beneath an umbrella—a very clever thing, and one, if the artist be young, of good promise. A nut-copse in autumn is not more distant and distinct in hue from a rose-bed in spring, than the colouring of Mr. Inskipp from that of Mr. Rothwell: turn, for example, from the 'Wayfarer,' to the *Lady sketched from Nature* (144), by the latter. She is indeed lovely, and delicate, and young, (to quote from a formal old elegy).—

All Beauty's treasure opening on her cheek: and we know not which, among Mr. Rothwell's contemporaries, could so well have painted her flower-like complexion, so richly relieved by her dark ringlets. The hands are thrown into shade. We do not always like Mr. Rothwell's shade-tints, as verging too closely upon the cold violet hues, which belong to dead, not living beauty. While we are among the colourists, what are we to say of Mr. Etty's extravagance (221), called, by him,—

Bright-eyed Fancy hovering o'er,

—whether are we most to lament, or to resent, the meretriciousness of this little picture, both as to design and colour? Poor Fancy is be-plumed, and buskined, and draped, much as if the nymph were preparing to attitudinize on the tight-rope at Sadler's Wells; while, in her face is displayed, not the "fine frenzy" which has animated the poets of all time, but a tipsy jollity, better befitting a dance round the car of Bacchus, than a wanton flight through the spiritual Empyrean! To enhance her every defect, Mr. Etty has further chosen to illustrate the rainbow-character of the goddess, by painting her flesh, and that of the joyous Cupid who floats at her side, as if they had been tinted by the light streaming through a cathedral window; here a patch of amber—there one of vermillion—hard by, one of violet. In spite of all its gorgeousness, his work, by its intellectual grossness, grovelling among the low and vulgar conceptions which are common—more is the pity—to the beauty, and to the sign, painter.

Mr. Partridge is one of the more ambitious exhibitors this year: and his *Apostles* (274), three male heads, are good evidence for him that his ambition is not groundless. But a subject more within his reach, is the *Visit of Boccaccio to Petrarch at Arqua*, (18) in which the romancer is represented as bearing to the scholar "the decree of the Florentine Senate, restoring his patrimonial property." Allowing for the complete change of scene and occupation of the two friends, with such a true appreciation of their characters does Mr. Partridge seem to us to have laboured, that his picture called up pleasant remembrances of Mr. Landon's 'Pentameron,' in which was chronicled the visit of Petrarch to Boccaccio at Certaldo. We could even, for a moment, have fancied that the maiden serving at table, was the veritable Assuntina of those dialogues—no dream, however, could transform the boy-page, assisting her ministry, into the young Simplicio Nardi, "who sometimes came on the Sunday morning to sweep the court yard for Assunta." We are wandering, unless this involuntary retrospect towards a delightful work be accepted, as it should be, for praise of the picture which has caused it. Another less poetical subject, but still well treated, is the *Wounded Guerilla* (153) of Mr. Simpson. This would, indeed, rank very high with us, but for its too strong resemblance to the

Spanish pictures of Wilkie and Lewis, which destroys its individuality. There is also a tendency towards a cold blackness of colour, which further detracts from its effect. And now we have done with the figure pieces, when we have said that Mr. Patten's *Graces* (303) are too clumsy and affected, in brief, too ungraceful to permit him, on the score of his picture, to be called their court painter—that the Exhibition contains a fair share of humorous and domestic subjects, by Messrs. Kidd, Buss, Clater, Fraser, &c., &c.—and of conversation pieces, by known hands at feathers, velvets, guitars, and such like dainty ware: one item, the *Looking Glass*, by Mr. Lauder (65), claiming special mention, because the tall girl in the satin robe, its subject, has something in attitude and colouring which reminds us, not disagreeably, of the damsels whom Terburg and Mieris loved to paint. Two little pictures by Mr. Goodall (the engraver?) now remain for notice: the *Entrée dans l'Eglise* (2), and *The Soldier defeated* (197), a game at draughts in a *Café* in Normandy. In both of these, is much character and cleverness—but a chilliness of tone, and smoothness of manner, which belong rather to the French, than the modern English school.

In landscapes, the same names as in former years, are here:—Mr. Cooke, with his clever marine pictures—Mr. Creswick, with his lane and lake, and avenue scenes. Among the latter, the terrace walk, shaded with cedars, at Haddon (33), is, indeed, a gem. Mr. Lee, too, among many other clever works, gives us, what we are inclined to consider as his masterpiece, in the *View from St. George's Hill* (149), where a slope of newly-ploughed earth, which we should have been disposed to consider as impossible to the painter, is introduced, in natural and easy harmony with a rich foreground, and a cool, but not bleak, horizon. Mr. Bright's *Ruin of a Mill* (302)—a sea-shore scene—must also be singled out, because the artist's name is new to us. With the exception of one slight, but clever sketch, by Mr. E. Landseer, the animal department of this Exhibition is filled by Mr. Sidney Cooper, though hardly so well as usual, and by Mr. Herring. *The Straw Yard* (201) by the latter is a very good picture of the homely kind.

MUSIC

QUARTETT CONCERTS. HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—Messrs. BLAGROVE, GATTIE, DANDO, & LUCAS, beg to inform the Public, that there will be, in the ensuing Season, SIX QUARTETT CONCERTS, on the following Evenings:—THURSDAYS, Feb. 13, 27, March 12, 26; MONDAYS, April 20, May 15. To commence at Half-past Eight o'clock. Performers: Madame Stockhausen, Madame Dulcken, Mrs. Anderson, Miss Masson, Miss Rainforth, Madame F. Lablache, Miss Birch, Miss Dolby, Messrs. Lindley, Potter, W. S. Bennett, Benedict, Willman, and Howell. In addition to whom, others will be engaged as their services may be required.—Tickets may be obtained of the Conductors; of Messrs. Cramer & Co. Regent-street; and Messrs. Collards, Cheap-side, on the following terms: For the Series, One Guinea and a Half each; for the first Four Concerts, One Guinea each; to admit Three Persons to any one Concert, 15s. each; Single, 7s. each. All Tickets are transferable.

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To CORRESPONDENTS.—Want of room prevents our inserting Mr. Black's letter; it shall appear in our next number.

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